ATLAS

NOV. ALL NEW MYSTIC TALES

MYSTIC

MYSTIC

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

10¢

NO. 41

WHAT WAS THE MYSTIC MEANING OF "THE TEST!"

"THEY PASS BY NIGHT!"

"THE ONE WHO DARED!"

MEN-WOMEN-BOYS-GIRLS

PRIZES GIVEN MAKE MONEY TOO!

We will send you the wonderful prizes pictured on this page . . . or dozens of others, such as jewelry, radium dial wrist watches, tableware, tools, U-Make-It kits, leather kits, sewing kits, electric clocks, pressure cookers, scout equipment, model airplanes, movie machines, record players, and many others . . . all WITHOUT ONE PENNY OF COST. You don't risk or invest a cent—we send you everything you need ON TRUST. Here's how easy it is: Merely show your friends and neighbors inspiring, beautiful Religious Wall Motto plaques. Many buy six or even more to hang in every room. An amazing value, only 35c . . . sell on sight. You can secure big, cash commissions or many exciting prizes for selling just one set of 24 Mottos. Write today for Big Prize catalog sent to you FREE!

SEND NO MONEY—We Trust You!

RADIO

ELECTRONIC TWO-WAY SPEAKIE-TALKIE

HOT ROGERS FLASH CAMERA

HOT ROGERS SPACE LAMP

HOT ROGERS SUNSCOPE

TEXAN JR. GUITAR

WRIST WATCHES FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

CARRY MAYER FISHING KIT

ARCHERY SET

RADIUM DIAL POCKET WATCH

GIRLS' SHOULDER STRAP BAG

VANITY SET

PRESSURE COOKER

SPORTS EQUIPMENT

TABLE TENNIS SET

SEWING MACHINE

ROLLER SKATES

WALKING DOLL

JEWELRY SET

BOYS' OR GIRLS' BICYCLE

UKELELE WITH ARTHUR GODFREY PLAYER

WOODBURNING SET

JET ENGINE PLANE FLIES 500 FEET!

TYPEWRITER

WHITE ZIPPER BIBLE

CHEMISTRY SET

RADIO RECEIVING SET FOR SCOUTS

HERE'S HOW YOU GET YOUR PRIZES

Rush your name and address on coupon and we ship AT ONCE PREPAID your first set of 24 big size richly decorated Mottos On 15 Days TRUST. When you have sold the 24 Mottos, send the $5.40 you have collected and you can secure your choice of many wonderful prizes. Hurry, send TODAY for 24 Mottos ON TRUST and big PRIZE CATALOG FREE!

FREE Membership in FUNman's Fun Club

EXTRA! Sell mottos and send payment within 15 days, and we'll give you FREE a year's Membership in the FUNman's Fun Club. Membership card, certificate, secret code, giant packet of fun materials all yours—PLUS many extra surprises!

The FUNman, Dept. C-132
5726 N. Broadway, Chicago 40, Ill.

FREE BIG PRIZE CATALOG

Please rush to me on 15 days credit 24 Religious Wall Mottos, to sell at 35c each. Also include big Prize Catalog FREE. I will remit amount required as explained under description of prize in BIG PRIZE CATALOG within 15 days and select the prize I want or keep a cash commission as explained.

NAME..... AGE.....

STREET or RFD .....

TOWN..... Zone.... STATE.....

SEND NO MONEY!...We Trust You!

The FUNman, Dept. C-132, 5726 N. Broadway, Chicago 40, Illinois

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SOMETIMES WE FORGET THAT MAN HIMSELF IS AN ANIMAL WHO BECAME THE SUPERIOR LIFE-FORM ON EARTH BECAUSE OF HIS ABILITY TO THINK AND REASON, AND HIS EMINENCE AMONG THE CREATURES OF EARTH WAS ARRIVED AT THROUGH A PROCESS OF NATURAL SELECTION! EVEN DR. MARSHEK FORGOT THIS, SO ENGROSSED WAS HE IN HIS SCIENTIFIC DREAM!

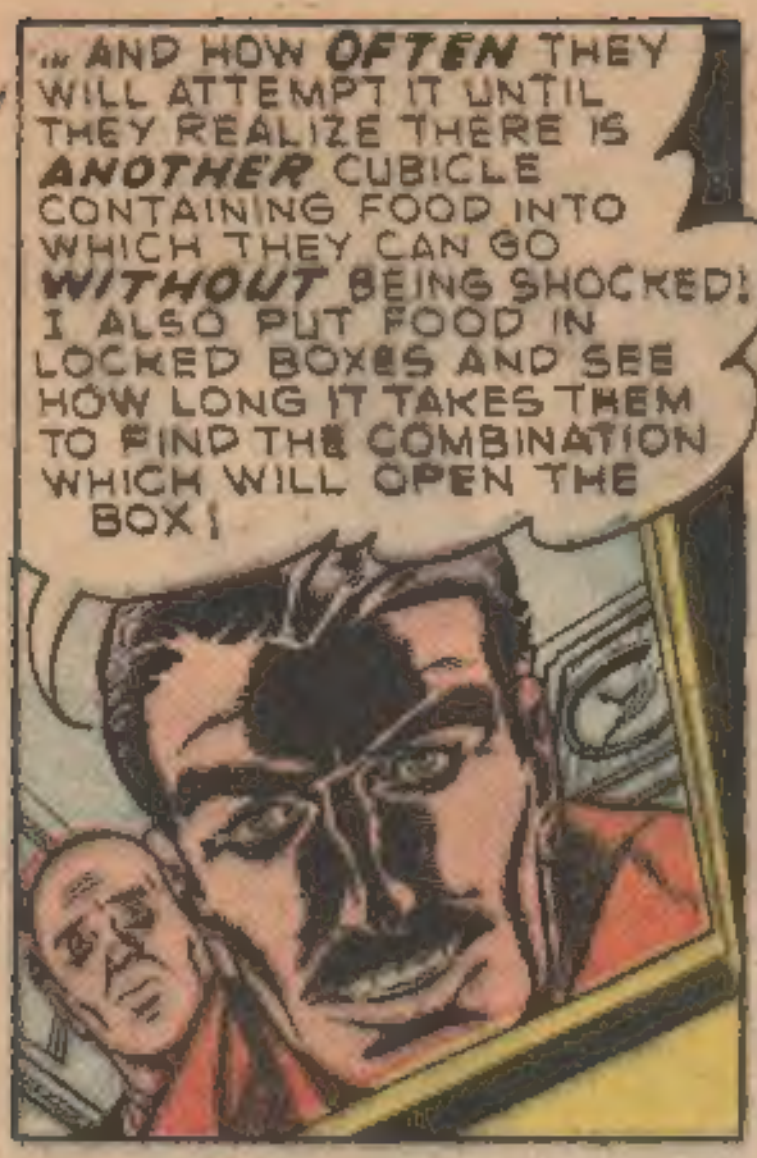
THE TEST!

VERY INTERESTING, THIS EXPERIMENT OF YOURS, MARSHEK! TELL ME MORE ABOUT IT!

DICK AYERS

WELL, SEVERAL YEARS AGO I SET UP THE EXPERIMENT IN THIS ISOLATED HOUSE, SO THE HAMSTERS WOULD NOT BE INFLUENCED BY OUTSIDE ENVIRONMENTAL PRESSURES!

BEFORE EACH DOOR THAT CONNECTS THE CUBICLES, AN ELECTRIC PLATE IS BUILT IN! I KEEP RECORDS ON WHICH OF THE ANIMALS TRY TO ENTER THE CUBICLE WITH THE ACTIVATED PLATES AND RECEIVE A SHOCK!


... AND HOW OFTEN THEY WILL ATTEMPT IT UNTIL THEY REALIZE THERE IS ANOTHER CUBICLE CONTAINING FOOD INTO WHICH THEY CAN GO WITHOUT BEING SHOCKED! I ALSO PUT FOOD IN LOCKED BOXES AND SEE HOW LONG IT TAKES THEM TO FIND THE COMBINATION WHICH WILL OPEN THE BOX!

I KEEP ONLY THE HAMSTERS WHO SHOW THE BEST SCORES!. FROM THEIR YOUNG I SELECT AGAIN THE ANIMALS DISPLAYING THE GREATEST INTELLIGENCE ON THE TESTS!
BUT WHAT IS YOUR OBJECTIVE?

OVER A PERIOD OF GENERATIONS I SHALL DEVELOP A STRAIN OF HAMSTERS WHICH ARE SUPER-INTELLIGENT! THIS GROUP I HAVE NOW WERE BORN WITH INTELLIGENCE ENOUGH NEVER TO APPROACH THE DOORS WHICH HAVE THE ACTIVATED ELECTRIC PLATES!

THEY CAN OPEN ANY CONTAINER AND EVALUATE ANY PROBLEM ACCURATELY! I HAVEN'T AS YET MADE A COMPLETE ESTIMATE OF THEIR MENTAL CAPACITY!
JUST HOW INTELLIGENT DO YOU THINK THEY CAN GET?

NOT TOO INTELLIGENT, I IMAGINE! THEY'LL NEVER REACH THE POINT WHERE THEY WILL USURP MAN'S INTELLECTUAL PLACE ON THIS GLOBE!
WHAT A STORM! WELL, GOOD-BYE, MARSHEK, AND THANKS — I ENJOYED SEEING YOUR EXPERIMENT!

THE HOUSE STOOD ALONE, A SHADOWY BULK AGAINST THE BLACKNESS OF NIGHT, PICKED OUT IN QUICK DETAIL BY THE OCCASIONAL BRILLIANT STREAKS OF LIGHTNING!

MARSHEK SLAMMED THE DOOR AGAINST THE WIND AND WENT INTO THE HAMSTER ROOM TO TAKE HIS LAST LOOK FOR THE NIGHT...

THE TINY CREATURES, LESS THAN SIX INCHES LONG AND WEIGHING ABOUT A QUARTER OF A POUND, STARED BACK AT HIM, AND A STRANGE FEELING SWEPT OVER HIM...

IT'S ALMOST AS THOUGH THEY ARE WATCHING ME AS DEEPLY AS I WATCH *THEM*!

HA, HA, HA, HOW FOOLISH CAN A MAN GET? THE PRESSURE OF THE STORM, I SUPPOSE!

HE HAD A GLASS OF MILK AND WENT TO BED, AND SOON HE SLEPT SOUNDLY...

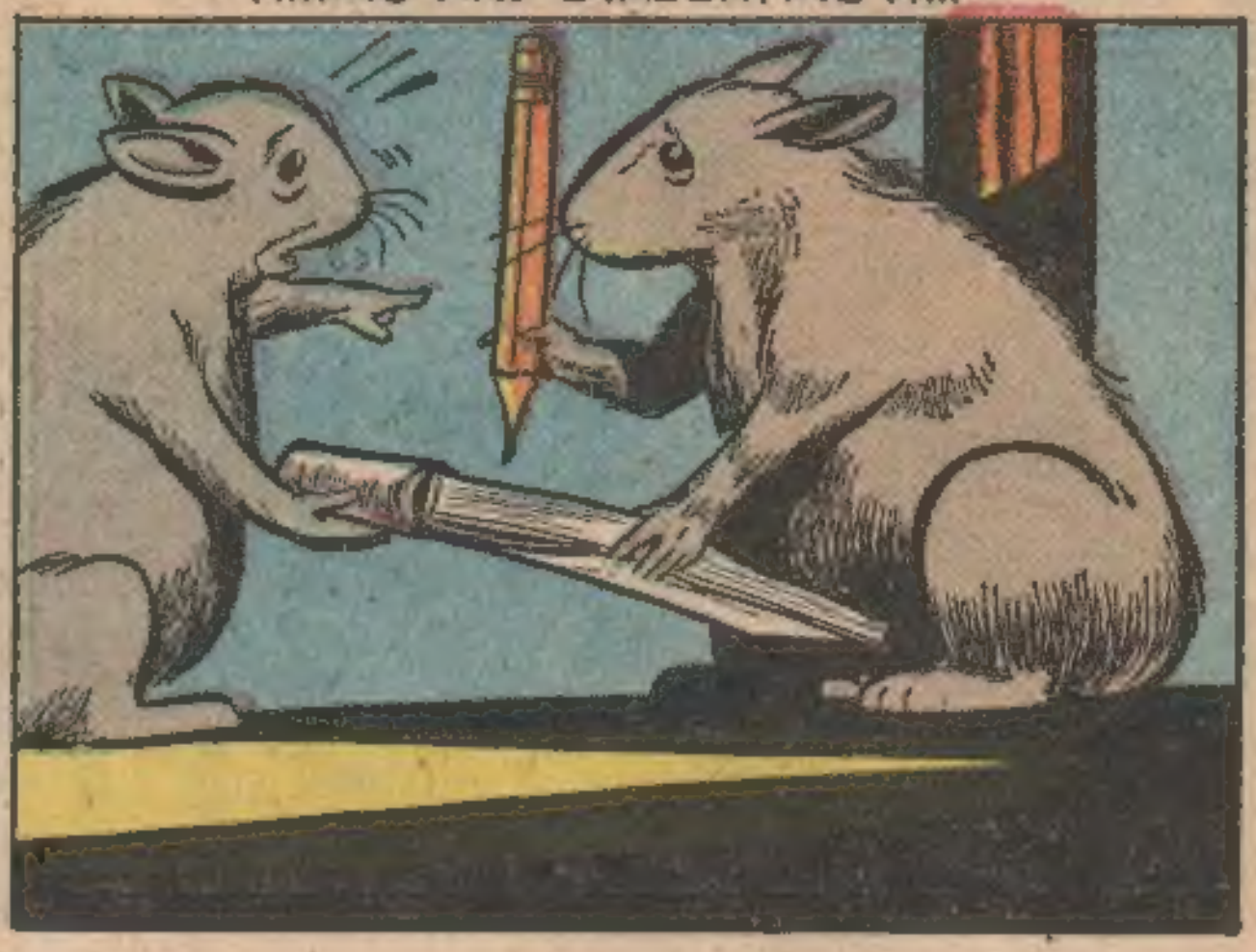
BUT THE HAMSTERS DIDN'T SLEEP...

SOMETIME DURING THE NIGHT, MARSHEK WOKE TO A STRANGE SOUND! HE LISTENED FOR A MOMENT...

HE WENT BACK TO SLEEP! BUT THE HAMSTERS DIDN'T SLEEP...

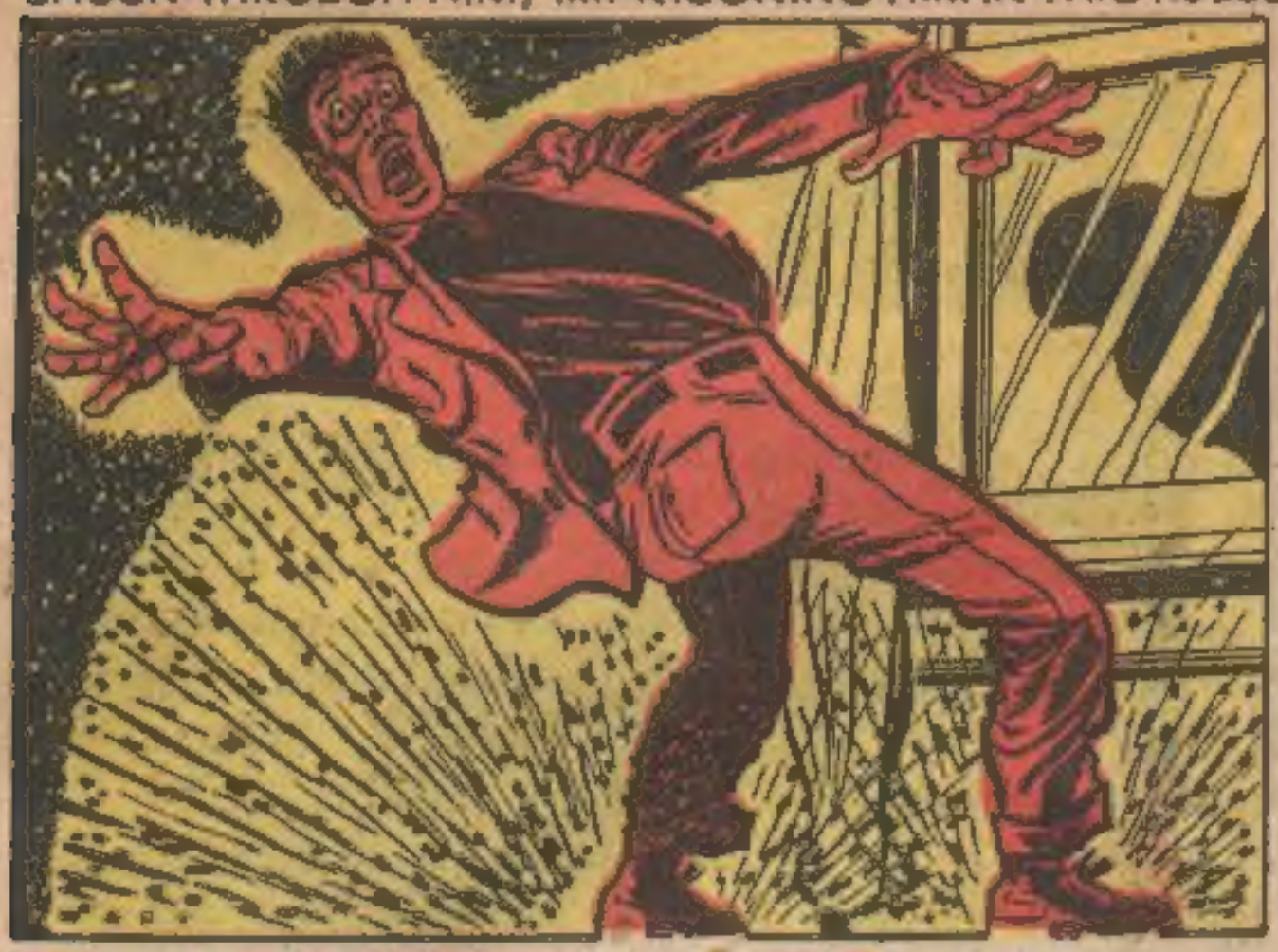
IN THE MORNING, MARSHEK ROSE AND DONNED HIS BATH-ROBE AND WALKED INTO THE KITCHEN...
LET'S SEE—MAYBE I'LL HAVE SOME SCRAMBLED EGGS...

HIDDEN IN THE SHADOWS OF THE TABLE, SEVERAL TINY FIGURES WATCHED HIS EVERY MOVEMENT, TIMING AND EVALUATING IT...



THE RAIN HAD CEASED BY THE TIME THE SCIENTIST HAD FINISHED BREAKFAST! HE WALKED TO THE DOOR TO TAKE HIS USUAL MORNING WALK...

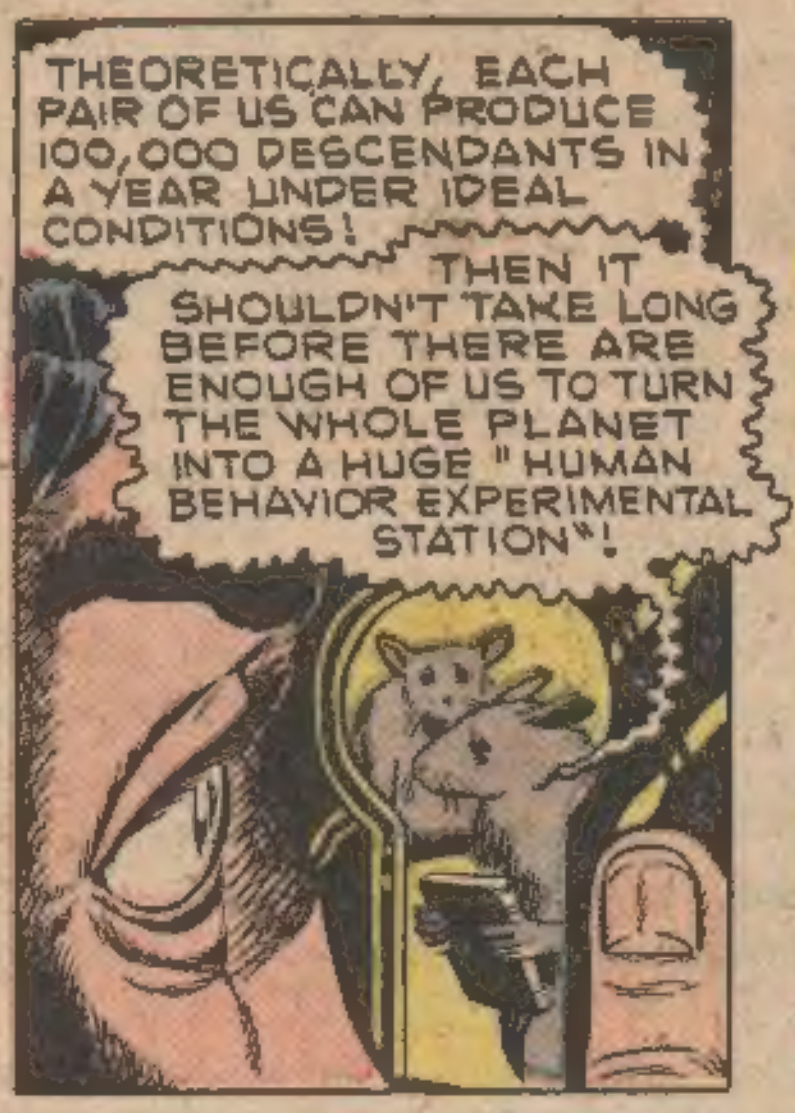
WHEN HE RAN TO THE DOORS AND THE WINDOWS, AND BEFORE EACH ONE AN ELECTRIFIED PLATE SENT ITS SHOCK THROUGH HIM, IMPRISONING HIM IN THIS HOUSE!



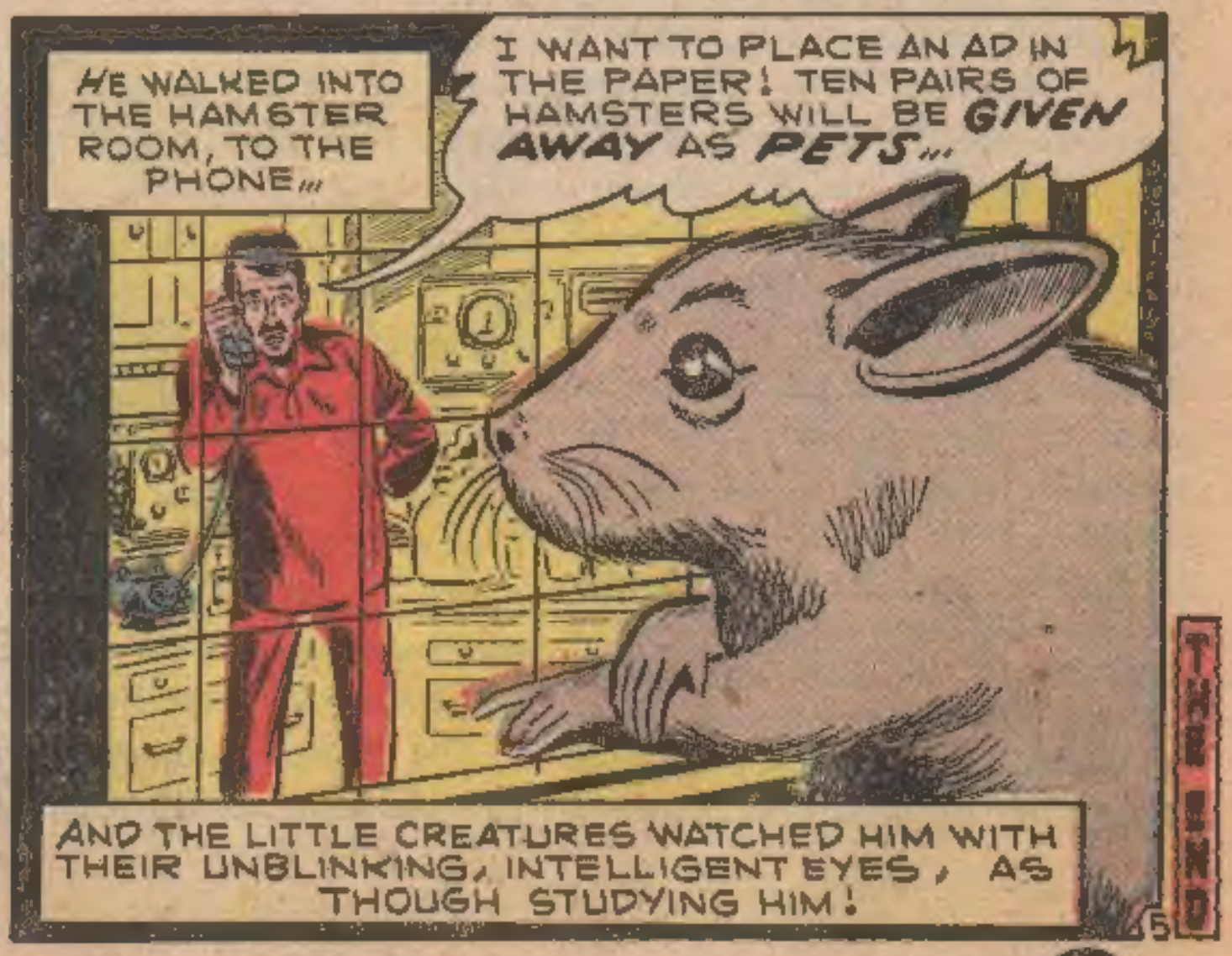
EXHAUSTED, HE SOUGHT THE SANCTUARY OF HIS BEDROOM...

HE HEARD A MURMURING! HE PUT HIS EAR TO THE DOOR AND LISTENED...

VERY INTERESTING! HE ATTEMPTED TO LEAVE BY EVERY EXIT BEFORE BECOMING CONVINCED THEY WERE ELECTRIFIED! HIS INTELLIGENCE QUOTA WAS MASKED BY EMOTIONAL STRESS!
HOW LONG DO YOU THINK IT WILL TAKE TO ACHIEVE OUR GOAL?


THEORETICALLY, EACH PAIR OF US CAN PRODUCE 100,000 DESCENDANTS IN A YEAR UNDER IDEAL CONDITIONS!
THEN IT SHOULDN'T TAKE LONG BEFORE THERE ARE ENOUGH OF US TO TURN THE WHOLE PLANET INTO A HUGE "HUMAN BEHAVIOR EXPERIMENTAL STATION"!

IT WAS THEN THAT DR. MARSHEK WOKE UP!


HE WALKED INTO THE HAMSTER ROOM, TO THE PHONE...
I WANT TO PLACE AN AD IN THE PAPER! TEN PAIRS OF HAMSTERS WILL BE GIVEN AWAY AS PETS...
AND THE LITTLE CREATURES WATCHED HIM WITH THEIR UNBLINKING, INTELLIGENT EYES, AS THOUGH STUDYING HIM!

THE END

ATLAS FOR THE BEST IN UNUSUAL STORIES LOOK FOR THE ATLAS SEAL ON THE COVER ATLAS

THE GENIUS

THE fancy Batsby sports cars were the last word in modern design until Batsby's competitor, Wiggins, came out with the "Z-plus". There was a great deal of secrecy about "Z-plus", and Mr. Batsby was terribly upset when he realized that it might make the Batsby "Last Word" model look like an old model by comparison.

"I want you to try and find out everything possible about this 'Z-plus' car," Batsby ordered his men. "We can't afford to let Wiggins and his crew make a laughing stock of our efforts. Why, I'll do him one better right down the line. I'll make a 'Z-double-plus' model if necessary. Wiggins is doing this just to embarrass me. He can't let me get ahead of him. I think he's just having his company make a lot of fuss and noise about 'Z-plus', but I doubt that he's really got anything sensational to offer."

"I certainly doubt it!" exclaimed Mr. Ripple, the head designing engineer for Batsby's "Last Word". "Why, our men have designed the most superior car on the market. Could anything be more beautiful or more complicated than this modern triumph, this gem, this . . ." Ripple sometimes got so carried away by the magnificence of his creation that he could hardly speak.

Batsby patted his shoulder understandingly and wiped a tear of emotion from the corner of his eye. The two men gazed at the Batsby "Last Word" glittering before their eyes in superlative blending of shining chromium coils and bright red metal streaks. Batsby leaned over the dashboard and with a dramatic flourish tapped a button which lit the "Last Word" from front to rear fender with an incandescent glow.

"Do you think that I believe that anything can compare with this?" asked Batsby. "I defy Wiggins to produce a car that can radiate light. This is an engineering miracle!"

Mr. Ripple bowed his head modestly, and a smile illuminated his serious face so that for a moment he almost matched the "Last Word" in glowing complexion.

Just then an excited figure rushed into the room, his white coat flapping about him as he ran toward them.

"Mr. Batsby! Mr. Ripple! Gentlemen! I've heard the latest on 'Z-plus'. It's from a reliable source, but it can't be true! Simply can't be true!"

Ripple frowned at his chief assistant. His beautiful and happy rose glow faded to paleness.

"What have you learned?" asked Mr. Batsby mournfully, readying himself for the blow.

"Wiggins has achieved the impossible. He's ready to market the *flying automobile. That's* the secret behind 'Z-plus'."

"Impossible!" exclaimed Ripple, looking as if he were going to develop a severe headache.

Mr. Batsby managed a half-hearted laugh that caught in his throat and started him coughing. He opened the door of the "Last Word", to sit himself down, and the automobile music trigger blared forth a gay tune which he quickly shut off.

"I don't believe it," said Mr. Batsby making a brave attempt to be cheerful. "Our men have put that in process for years now, and we're far ahead of Wiggins. Batsby will be the first on the market with the flying car, but right now it isn't technically possible to produce one successfully. Right, Ripple?"

"Right!" Ripple assured him. "It's just a lot of nonsense that Wiggins is starting to scare us into thinking that he's gone ahead of us. I don't put much stock in these rumors."

"Well, ordinarily I might not give it too much thought," the man in the white coat admitted. "But it isn't one of these ordinary Wiggins waggings, as we call the rumors he circulates. You see, one of our own men was cruising around the Wiggins plant in his 'Last Word' Batsbay model. You know how we fellows feel about the Batsby. Why, we're just as proud as a bunch of kids with a new toy!"

Mr. Batsby's face beamed with pleasure.

"Get on with the story," he said.

"Well, some of our boys drove out to the Wiggins plant sort of to show off. Does that make them mad to see the 'Last Word' cars go by! A few miles

CONTINUED BEFORE LAST STORY

How I Made a Small Fortune In Spare Time!

(WITHOUT SPENDING A PENNY)

The TRUE STORY of William Bergstrom of Illinois

No, but maybe BETTER! I'm a Mason Shoe Man in off hours You should see how people buy these shoes! Look, real AIR CUSHION innersoles!
GOSH! Can I make money that way?

Jim told me Mason sends a Selling Outfit FREE and shows how to make MONEY So I mailed a coupon My wife was thrilled
Bill! Look... a real air cushion innersole that customers can feel!
And look at this! Over 175 different styles! Dress shoes sport shoes work shoes... from width AAAA to EEEE!

I started with friends, relatives, people where I worked EVERYBODY wants comfortable shoes!
Just feel that cushion, Joe! Wouldn't you like to "Walk on Air" all day long?
Say, I'd like those shoes You sure have swell styles... my right size, too!

Soon the Mason people sent me actual sample shoes, and sales came faster than ever!
Say, you have a larger selection than a store!
Stores can't carry all the sizes and widths to fit every foot right. Mason has 200,000 pairs on hand, so I'm never out of a style, size or width!

My spare-time business grew by leaps and bounds It was a cinch getting repeat orders!
Hello Mr. Jones It's been 2 months since I've called on you
Come in Mr. Bergstrom. Time I was getting another pair of Mason shoes. My wife needs a pair, too!
Never had a shoe fit so well

I soon had a business that brought me over $3,000 EXTRA a year, plus exciting prizes I found real security
Bill! a new toaster!
Didn't cost a cent! Mason gave it to me. They give away thousands of prizes every year I've really made a small fortune!

Mail Coupon For YOUR FREE Money-Making Outfit!

What would YOU do with $3,000 EXTRA income a year? *Thousands of men are making handsome* ***extra incomes*** *with Mason Shoe. You don't invest one cent ever. You need no experience. We'll send you a complete Starting Outfit FREE! It features handsome line of over 175 styles in smart dress shoes, sporty casuals and fast-selling work shoes ...and includes 10-second Air Cushion demonstrator, Measuring equipment, Money-making booklet, National ads. EVERYTHING you need to start making* ***big money*** *from your first hour!*

If you want to give yourself a raise every month—with a steady-profit repeat-order business ...if you want to be ***your own boss*** *...just rush this coupon TODAY to Mason Shoe Mfg. Co., Dept. MA 656 Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin. You'll receive your powerful FREE SALES OUTFIT right away!*

Mr. Red Mason, Dept MA 656
Mason Shoe Mfg. Co.
Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin

You bet I want to start making a small fortune in spare time! Rush my FREE SELLING OUTFIT with everything I need to start making money my first hour!

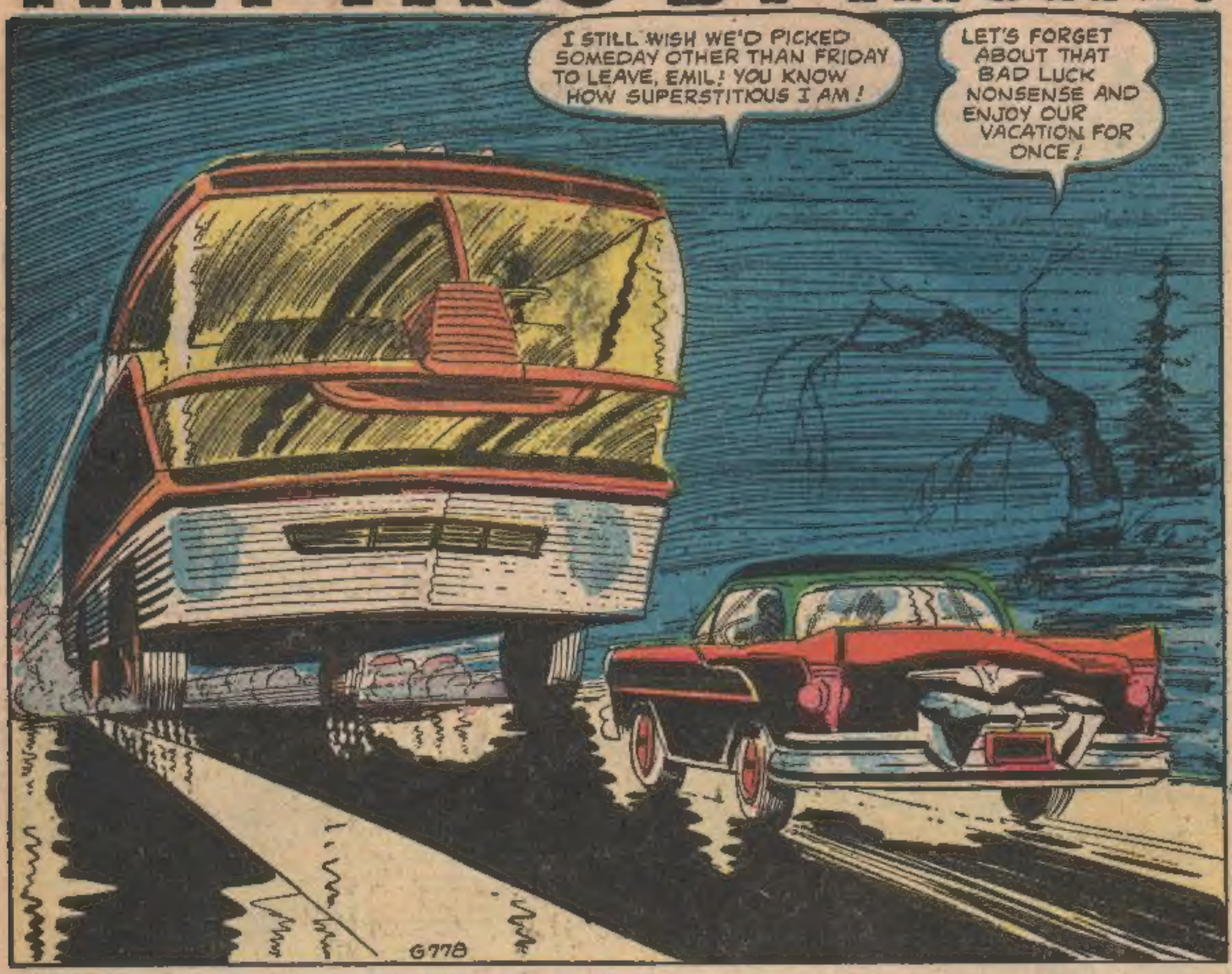
Name _____ *Age* _____

Address _____

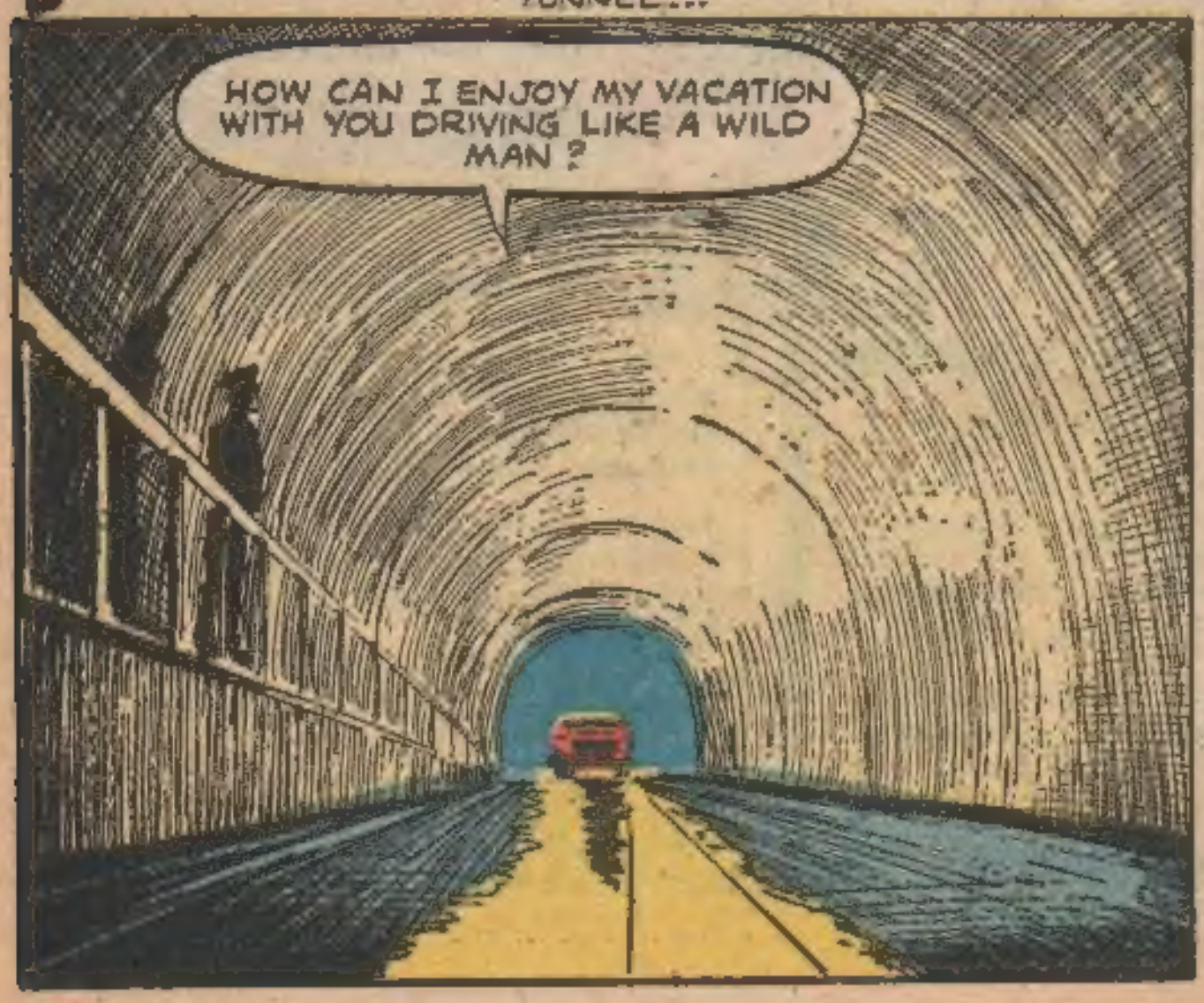
Town _____ *State* _____

THE GREAT VEHICLE ROLLED OUT OF ITS MODERN TERMINAL AND GLIDED EASILY ONTO THE ROADWAY LEADING EASTWARD TO HIGHWAY 13! AND AT THAT MOMENT, BEATRICE HIGGINS SAT BESIDE HER HUSBAND, EMIL, FILLED WITH FOREBODING AS THEY STARTED THEIR TRIP TOWARD THE WEST COAST!

THEY PASS BY NIGHT!


I STILL WISH WE'D PICKED SOMEDAY OTHER THAN FRIDAY TO LEAVE, EMIL! YOU KNOW HOW SUPERSTITIOUS I AM!
LET'S FORGET ABOUT THAT BAD LUCK NONSENSE AND ENJOY OUR VACATION FOR ONCE!
G778

EMIL GUIDED HIS CAR INTO THE VASTNESS OF THE HOLLAND TUNNEL...



BEA, IN TWENTY-TWO YEARS OF DRIVING, I'VE NEVER HAD AN ACCIDENT, AND I WON'T THIS TIME UNLESS YOUR NAGGING MAKES ME SO NERVOUS I WON'T KNOW WHAT I'M DOING!

THE HIGGINS CAR SOON EMERGED IN NEW JERSEY! EMIL DID NOT FOLLOW THE MAJOR TY OF TRAFFIC...

HIGHWAY 13 WESTBOUND

HIGHWAY ! THIRTEEN! WHY, EMIL?

TO AVOID HEAVY TRAFFIC! THE LESS CARS ON THE ROAD, THE LESS CHANCE THERE IS OF AN ACCIDENT!

BUT THIRTEEN! ARE YOU LOOKING FOR TROUBLE?

DON'T BE CHILDISH! JUST BECAUSE THIRTEEN IS AN UNLUCKY NUMBER DOESN'T MEAN EVERY CAR ON THE HIGHWAY IS DOOMED!

AT THAT MOMENT, THE GLEAMING BUS COMING FROM THE WEST TURNED ONTO HIGHWAY 13! THE BROAD EXPANSE OF ROADWAY AHEAD WAS CLEAR OF TRAFFIC...

HIGHWAY 13 EASTBOUND

THE BUS DRIVER TOOK OVER THE HIGHWAY AND HIS FOOT GRADUALLY PRESSED DOWN ON THE ACCELERATOR! FIFTY... SIXTY... SEVENTY...

KEEP RIGHT

EMIL AND BEATRICE RODE MOST OF THAT DAY IN SILENCE, AND JUST BEFORE NIGHTFALL THEY STOPPED AT A MOTEL...

WELL SO FAR, NOT A SIGN OF TROUBLE!

WE'VE STILL GOT A LONG WAY TO GO! SOMETHING BAD WILL HAPPEN BEFORE WE GET TO CALIFORNIA!

I DON'T OFTEN GET PREMONITIONS, BUT WHEN I DO, THINGS HAPPEN!

NONSENSE!

GO ON LAUGH! BUT AFTER WE'VE HAD AN ACCIDENT, YOU'LL KNOW I WAS RIGHT, AND THEN IT'LL BE TOO LATE!

BAH!

AN HOUR LATER THE BUS HAD MADE ITS STOP AT A WAY STAT ON AND ONCE AGA N THUNDERED THROJGH THE NIGHT ON ITS WAY EASTWARD ACROSS THE CONTINENT!

HIGH 1 EAST

AT TIMES THE B S DR VER D D STRAY TO THE LEFT PERHAPS HE WAS JUST TIRED OR HYPNOT ZED BY THE ENDLESS S RETCH OF ROAD PASSING BEFORE H S EYES.

BY MID-MORNING THE NEXT DAY...

DO YOU HAVE TO DRIVE SO FAST IN THIS FOG?

I'M NOT GOING FAST! LOOK AT THE SPEEDOMETER! THIRTY-FIVE ISN'T FAST FOR A HIGHWAY, EVEN IN A FOG!

I'VE GOT THAT AWFUL FEELING AGAIN! I WISH WE COULD STOP OFF SOMEWHERE UNTIL THE FOG LIFTS!

AT THE RATE WE'RE GOING, IT WILL TAKE US TEN DAYS TO REACH CALIFORNIA! I GET JUST THREE WEEKS VACATION A YEAR AND I DON'T INTEND TO SPEND ALL OF IT DRIVING!

IT WAS ON THE FOURTH DAY THAT EMIL HIGGINS NEARING THE MIDWAY POINT, KEPT UP A STEADY SPEED OF SEVENTY MILES AN HOUR.

PLEASE, DEAR!

I'M NOT GOING TO SLOW DOWN! THERE'S TOO MUCH TIME TO BE MADE UP!

AND THE BIG BUS TOO, ROARED ALONG THE HIGHWAY AS IF IT WERE THE ONLY VEHICLE ON THE ROAD...

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE...

NOW You Can Fly a Real JET PLANE!

New, Amazing SIL-O-JETS actually Fly at a Scale Speed of 600 M.P.H.

NOTHING LIKE IT FOR FUN • THRILLS • EXCITEMENT

Imagine! You can now fly a real jet-propelled plane . just like the ones that are making the headlines today You and your friends will love the way these supersonic thrillers take off under their own JET power, climb 500 feet, loop circle, stunt — and then go into a long glide and come to a smooth 3-point landing. Yes, they're the fastest, hottest planes you've ever seen . each SIL-O-JET a 16 inches of greased lightning that *actually flies at a scale speed of 600 m.p.h.*

ASSEMBLE and FLY in 2 MINUTES

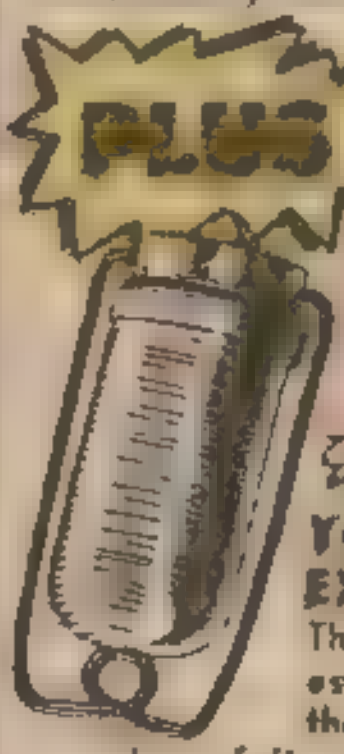
The SIL-O-JETS come complete with the famous JETEX #50 jet engine and all parts cut out for you. Just follow the easy instructions, glue the parts together—and you're set for all the thrills of real jet flight

Be the first jet plane Ace in your neighborhood. SEND NO MONEY — simply mail the coupon below TODAY and we'll rush your SIL-O JETS to you by return mail

SENSATIONAL BONUS OFFER!

If You Act Immediately!

For a limited time only! You get not one but three complete scale JET airplanes: F-9-F PANTHER and F-94 STARFIRE in addition to your F-89 SCORPION! Make and fly all three. Rush the coupon and we'll send all 3 exciting jet fighters *without extra cost* as part of this special introductory offer.



AMAZING JETEX #50 JET ENGINE

Selling for $1.95 in stores everywhere

YOURS AT NO EXTRA COST!

The world's smallest jet engine and the most powerful engine of its size ever sold. It runs on solid fuel, starts every time . . . completely reliable NO MOVING PARTS TO BREAK OR WEAR OUT Can be used to power model airplanes, racing cars and boats.

GUARANTEED TO FLY

Each SIL-O-JET is unconditionally guaranteed to fly if you follow the simple instructions. If the SIL-O-JETS do not fly, return with the JETEX #50 engine within 10 days and your money will be refunded.

MAIL THIS COUPON NOW!

SIL-O-JET (Dept MC 105)
AMERICA'S HOBBY CENTER, INC.
152 West 25th St., New York 1, N. Y.

RUSH!

☐ Please RUSH my 3 SIL-O-JETS and JETEX #50 engine. I will pay the postman only $1.98 plus C.O.D. charges on arrival.

☐ I enclose $2.00 to save up to 50c C.O.D charges If the planes do not fly, I may return them in 10 days for full refund.

NAME _____
(Please Print)

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZONE ____ STATE _____

☐ I enclose 25c (cash) for your giant 128 page 2 color catalog listing over 10,000 model and hobby items (airplanes, speed boats, race cars, engines, accessories, etc.)

EMIL MAINTAINED HIS DANGEROUS 70 MPH SPEED, EVEN LONG AFTER NIGHT HAD CLOSED IN..

I CAN'T STAND IT, EMIL! YOU INSIST ON DRIVING AT NIGHT EVEN THOUGH HEADLIGHTS FROM OTHER CARS BLIND YOU! PLEASE TURN BACK!

WE'RE ALMOST HALFWAY TO CALIFORNIA! RELAX, DEAR! TRY TO ENJOY THE TRIP!

EMIL... LOOK OUT!

I CAN'T GET ANY FARTHER TO THE RIGHT WITHOUT RUNNING OFF THE ROAD!

BEA, YOU'RE MAKING ME VERY NERVOUS SCREAMING EVERY TIME WE PASS ANOTHER CAR!

I WISH WE'D NEVER STARTED ON THIS TRIP!

CONSIDERING ALL THE DIFFICULTIES, EMIL GUIDED HIS CAR CLEAR ACROSS THE CONTINENT IN REMARKABLY GOOD TIME...

LOS ANGELES CITY LIMITS

AND THEY ARRIVED AT THE HOTEL WHERE EMIL HAD MADE RESERVATIONS, JUST SEVEN DAYS AFTER LEAVING NEW YORK!

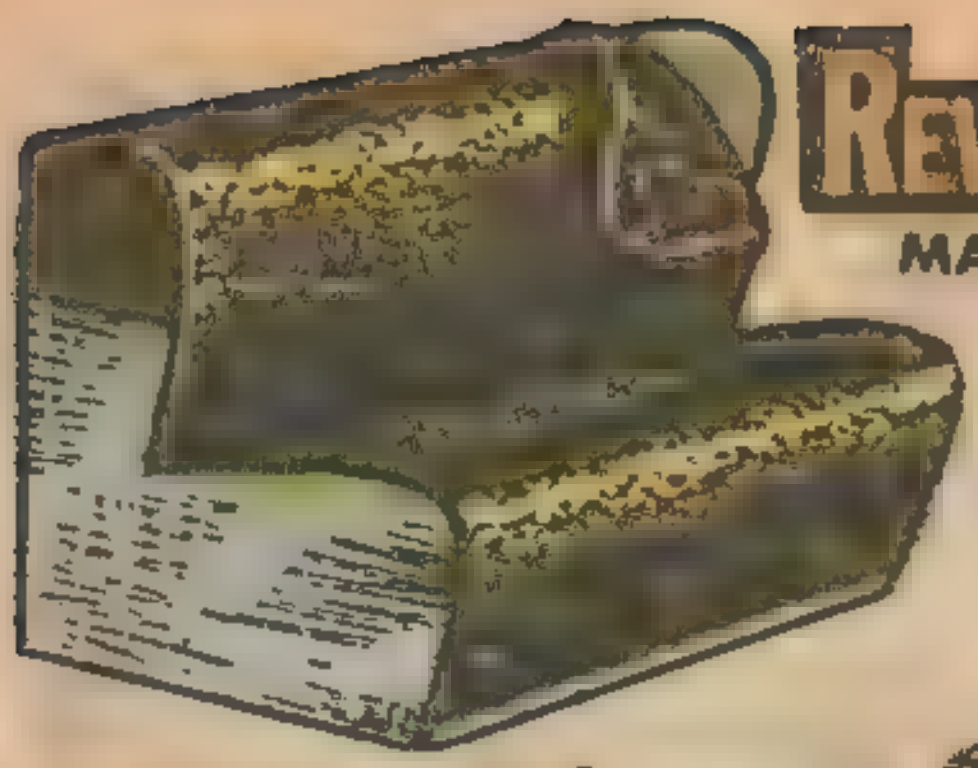
I MUST ADMIT, EMIL, THIS IS ONE TIME MY INTUITION WAS WRONG!

WELL, LET'S FORGET THE TRIP! LET'S JUST ENJOY OUR VACATION!

IN SPITE OF THE DRIVER'S SEEMING RECKLESSNESS, THE GREAT GLEAMING BUS ARRIVED SAFELY AT ITS DESTINATION! YOU SEE THE BUS COULD *NEVER* HAVE COLLIDED WITH THE HIGGINS CAR, FOR IT WAS TRAVELING ON HIGHWAY 13 ON THE *PLANET MERCURY!*

THE END

ATLAS FOR THE BEST IN UNUSUAL STORIES LOOK FOR THE ATLAS SEAL ON THE COVER ATLAS



REVERSIBLE AUTO SEAT COVERS

MADE OF FLEXTON — SERVICE GAUGE PLASTIC

Colorful SNAKE AND ZEBRA DESIGN

Leather-Leopard-Design, Reversible

• Waterproof Easy to attach to seats for good fit. Roomy and neat. Elastic shirring and reinforced overlap side grips insure over-all seat coverage. Will dress up your car's interior and give protection to seat upholstery. Whisk off mud, oil, sand, grime with a damp rag for bright as new appearance Sewn with nylon thread for long wear and durability.

ORDER FROM MANUFACTURER AND SAVE

Choice of split or front seat styles only **$2.98** each. Complete set for Front & Rear only **$5.00.** Specify make of car and seat style with each order. Save Money and buy a set today.

LEATHER DESIGN

[illegible]

Snake Zebra Design—Printed Plastic can be used on either side Gives snappy distinctive dress up appearance Front or Rear Seat only **$2.98**

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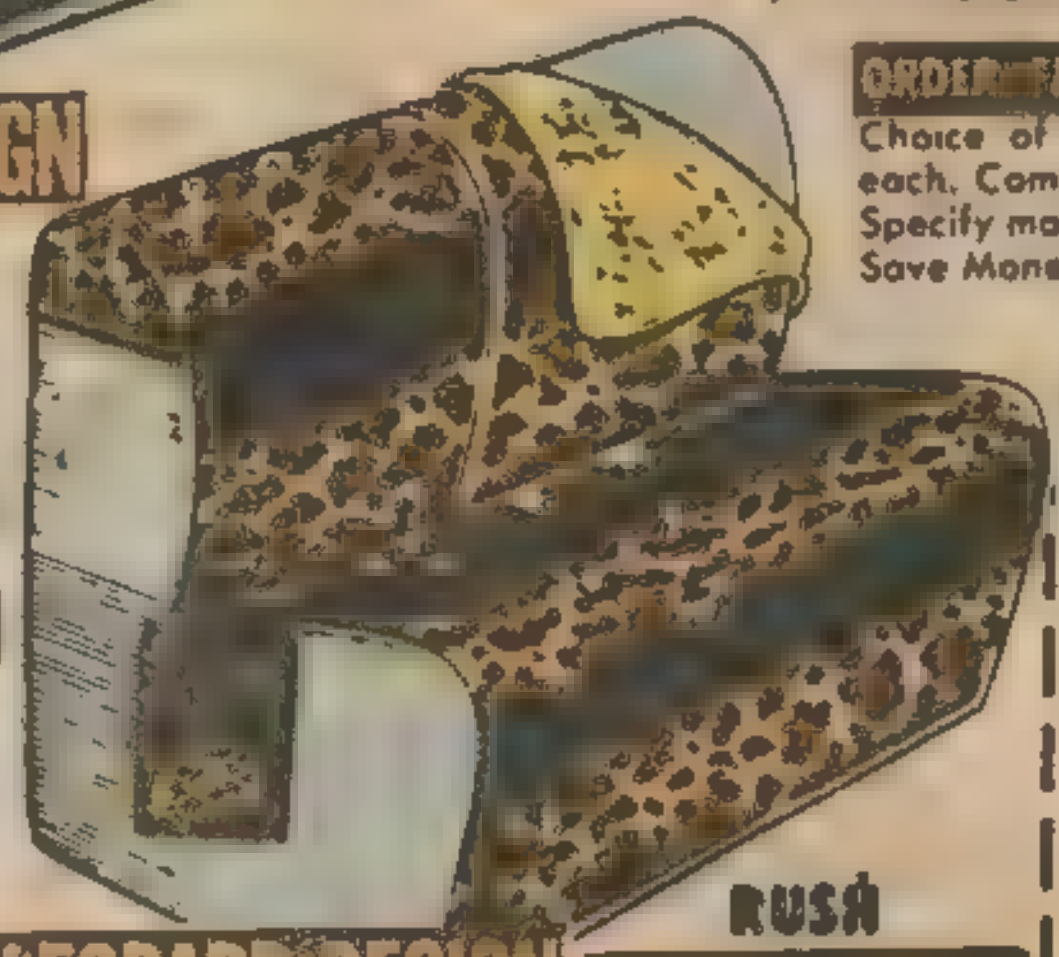

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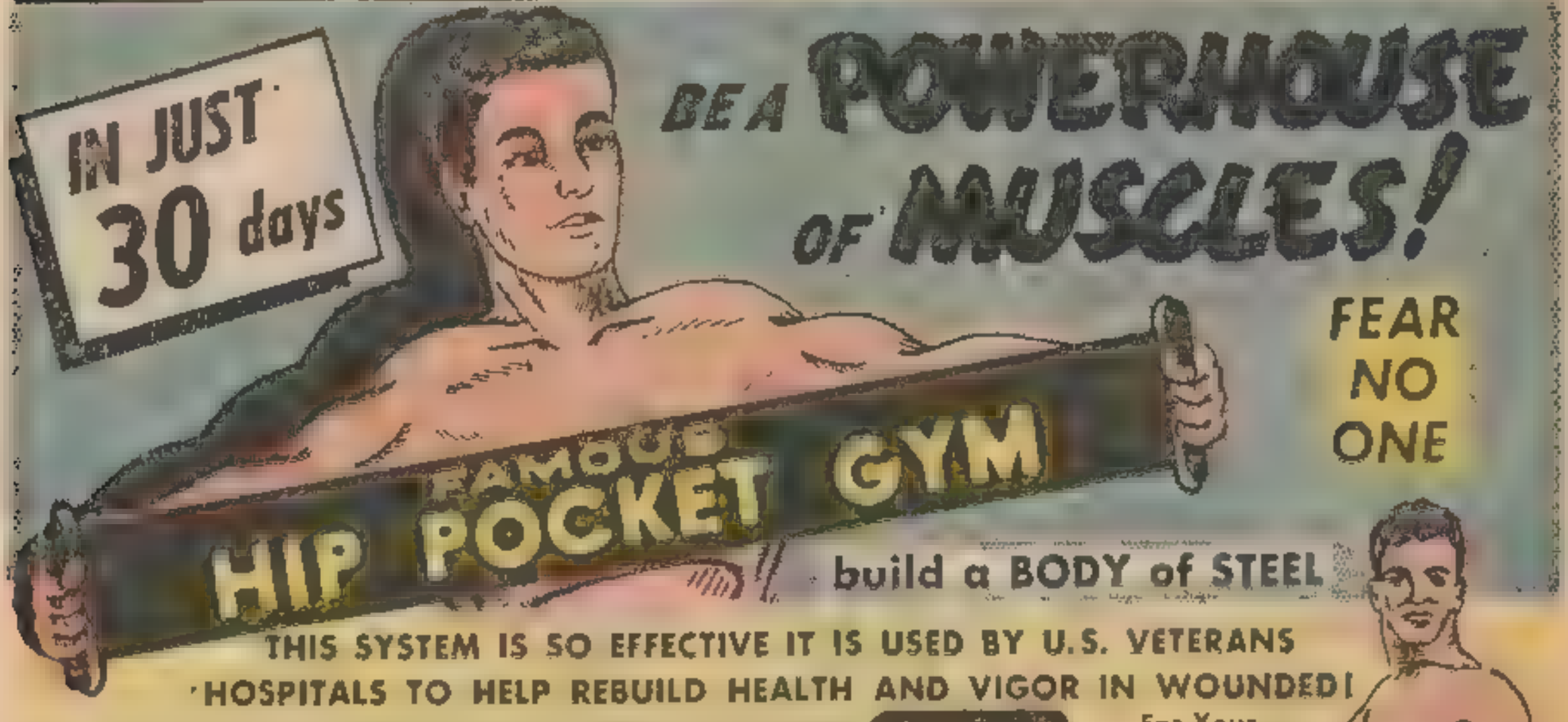

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Please rush my [illegible] POCKET GYM and FREE, Illustrated Book [illegible] plus charges. If [illegible] for Cash Refund [illegible]

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I CAN HEAR YOU *THINK!*

THEIR ELDERS CREATED THE POSSIBILITY OF ATOMIC DOOM, BUT THE CHILDREN FOUND A WAY TO ESCAPE ITS CONSEQUENCES...

OUR MAIN PROBLEM IS *PSYCHOLOGICAL!* THE PUBLIC IS WORRIED THAT THERE'S NO SURE DEFENSE AGAINST ATTACK!

ALL OUR EXPERIMENTS WITH DOZENS OF TYPES OF MISSILES HAVEN'T YET UNCOVERED ANY ADEQUATE DEFENSE!

PROFESSOR GRANT, HAVE ANY OF YOUR MEN IN THE NUCLEAR PHYSICS BRANCH COME UP WITH ANYTHING?

NOT YET GENERAL BUT I'M OPTIMISTIC! FOR EVERY WEAPON MAN HAS EVER INVENTED HE HAS FOUND A *DEFENSE!*

AND MILES AWAY FROM THE DEFENSE PLANNERS, THE DOWNES FAMILY SPENDS A RESTFUL SUNDAY.

HERE'S THE NEWSPAPER YOU ASKED FOR, DAD!

BUT, JOHNNY, I *DIDN'T* ASK FOR IT! I WAS JUST *THINKING* HOW I'D *LIKE* YOU TO GET IT FOR ME!

FUNNY I'M SURE I *HEARD* YOU ASK ME TO GET THE PAPER.

EC JOHNNY I'VE BEEN HERE ALL ALONG! DAD DIDN'T *SAY* A THING!

THE INCIDENT IS FORGOTTEN UNTIL MONDAY...

WHAT'S IN THE BAG JOHNNY?

THE COOKING GREENS AND A BUNCH OF CARROTS YOU TOLD ME TO GET

I WAS GOING TO SEND YOU OUT FOR THIS ORDER WHEN YOU GOT HOME BUT *I DIDN'T SPEAK TO YOU ABOUT IT, UNTIL NOW!*

YOU MUST'VE FORGOTTEN, MOM! I DISTINCTLY *HEARD* YOU TELL ME WHAT TO BUY!

THAT NIGHT AS JOHNNY SLUMBERS HIS PARENTS WHISPER ANXIOUSLY

IT'S THE SECOND TIME IN TWO DAYS HE'S PERFORMED THIS *"MIND READING"!*

WHY NOT TAKE HIM TO DR. WRIGHT? HE'S A TOP PSYCHOLOGIST.. MAYBE *HE'LL* HAVE THE ANSWER!

THE NEXT DAY AS DR WRIGHT TURNS OVER THE CARDS IN A DECK CONCENTRATING ON EACH JOHNNY CALLS THEM OUT

THREE OF CLUBS!

DR. R WRIGHT

INCREDIBLE! HE'S GONE THROUGH ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-SIX CARDS WITHOUT A MISTAKE! IT'S *TELEPATHY!*

AND THREE DAYS LATER, AT EXACTLY FIVE O'CLOCK JOHNNY CONCENTRATES ON ANOTHER MAN'S THOUGHT, AND DRAWS...

NOW TO OPEN MY COLLEAGUE'S ENVELOPE AND SEE IF THE TWO DRAWINGS ARE SIMILAR!

MY FRIEND AT THIS VERY MOMENT IS CONCENTRATING ON THE ORIGINAL OF THIS DRAWING WHICH JOHNNY *DUPLICATED!* AND MY FRIEND IS OVER *THREE THOUSAND MILES AWAY!*

by Johnny

BUT **WHY** DOES JOHNNY HAVE THIS STRANGE POWER TO READ MINDS?

YOUR SON **ISN'T** THE **ONLY** CHILD WITH THAT ABILITY! HERE ARE REPORTS FROM OTHER PSYCHOLOGISTS ALL OVER THE WORLD ABOUT **CHILDREN** WHO'VE BEEN BROUGHT TO THEM WITH SIMILAR POWERS!

AND AS DR WRIGHT CONTINUES HIS RESEARCH, THE MYSTERY DEEPENS AS EVERY SMALL CHILD EXHIBITS THE AMAZING ABILITY TO READ HIS THOUGHTS..

TWO OF SPADES!

IN HIS WAITING ROOM, DR WRIGHT DISCOVERS MIND READING CAN SERVE A USEFUL PURPOSE...

LOOKS LIKE THE BIGGER BOY IS GOING TO GRAB THE GAME FROM THE SMALLER ONE!

HERE! I "HEARD" YOU WANT TO PLAY WITH THIS! I'VE HAD IT LONG ENOUGH!

THAT AVOIDED A CERTAIN FIGHT! ONCE THE SMALLER BOY **KNEW** WHAT THE OTHER WAS **THINKING**, HE COULD MAKE HIS DECISION BEFORE THEY CAME TO BLOWS!

I DON'T KNOW **WHY**, BUT A GENERATION OF CHILDREN HAS BEEN BORN WITH THE ABILITY TO READ MINDS! I'D BETTER WRITE MY REPORT AND SEND IT ON TO THE AUTHORITIES, FOR THEM TO INVESTIGATE!

A MONTH LATER, JOHNNY SUDDENLY STOPS PLAYING AS A GRIM LOOK COMES OVER HIS USUALLY CARE-FREE FACE

DAD, SOMEONE IS THINKING OF LAUNCHING A GUIDED MISSILE AGAINST US!

JOHNNY, WHAT KIND OF CHILDISH NONSENSE IS THIS?

IT'S **TRUE**, DAD! I CAN **HEAR** HIM THINKING OUT HIS PLANS TO **ATTACK**!

YOU REALLY *HEAR* SOMEONE THINKING ABOUT SUCH AN ATTACK?

YES DAD! PLEASE TELL DR WRIGHT! HE'LL KNOW WHAT TO DO!

MR DOWNES PHONES THE PSYCHOLOGIST AND TELLS HIM JOHNNY'S STARTLING WARNING.

I DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH STOCK TO PUT IN IT, DOCTOR, BUT I AM WORRIED!

ALL I CAN TELL YOU IS, JOHNNY'S *NOT* THE ONLY CHILD WHO HAS "HEARD" THESE ATTACK PLANS!

THAT'S WHY WE'RE HERE, DOCTOR! ZELDA & BEEN HEARING THOSE PLANS TOO!

TAKING SOME OF HIS PATIENTS TO ARMY DEFENSE HEADQUARTERS, DR. WRIGHT STATES THE CHILDREN'S NEWS...

AND I CANNOT STRESS HOW STRONGLY I BELIEVE IN THEIR POWERS TO "HEAR" THOUGHTS!

IT *IS* EXTRAORDINARY, DOCTOR! BUT YOU SAY THE CHILDREN *DONT* KNOW EACH OTHER AND YET HAVE HEARD THE *SAME THING!*

THE DATE FOR THE ATTACK IS OCTOBER 28TH, S.R.I

THAT'S THE DATE I HEAR, THE 28TH!

DO YOU HEAR ANYTHING ELSE?

YES...ONE MISSILE WILL BE LAUNCHED...IT WILL CROSS THE NORTH POLE AT 9:57 IN THE MORNING...ON A COURSE OF SOUTH 43 DEGREES!

THAT'S RIGHT! I HEAR THE *SAME* WHATEVER IT MEANS!

WELL, WE CAN'T TAKE ANY CHANCES! WE'LL SET UP COUNTER MEASURES!

[illegible] AT THE [illegible] HAS [illegible] THE [illegible] THAT [illegible] HOUR.

AT PRECISELY 8:37 A.M. TWO MISSILES COLLIDE OVER THE NORTH POLE..

AND ON A SPECIAL TELEVISION PICK-UP CIRCUIT...

THE DEFENSE MISSILE ZEROED RIGHT IN ON OUR DUD! THANKS TO THE INFORMATION PROFESSOR GRANT GOT FROM DR. WRIGHT

IT WAS EASY TO SET UP THIS *SIMULATED ATTACK!*

AND SINCE IT WAS KEPT SECRET FROM EVERY-ONE INCLUDING THE MEN IN CHARGE OF CONTINENTAL DEFENSE WE CAN CONCLUDE THE CHILDREN WERE ABLE TO ALERT THEM TO STOP THIS ATTACK JUST AS THEY WOULD DO IN EVENT OF A *REAL* ONE!

YOU WERE RIGHT BEFORE PROFESSOR GRANT! WE *HAVE* FOUND A DEFENSE AGAINST ATOMIC WEAPONS... MIND READING! WITH MIND-READING KIDS, NO ONE COULD THINK OF AN UNDETECTED SNEAK ATTACK! BUT WHY AND HOW DID THEY GET THE MENTAL POWER?

THEY WERE ALL AFFECTED BY SOME *NEW FACTOR* IN THE WORLD... INCREASED RADIATION! AND THERE'S THE ONE COMMON FACT THAT THEY WERE *ALL BORN AFTER* 5:30 A.M. OF JULY 16TH 1945

WHAT HAPPENED *THEN?*

...THAT'S WHEN THE *WORLD'S FIRST ATOM BOMB WAS EXPLODED!*

ATOMIC BOMB EXPLODED AT 5:30 A.M. JULY 16, 1945 ALAMOGORDO, N.M.

ATOM FIRST ATOMIC BOMB EXPLOSION PHOTO

ATLAS FOR THE BEST IN UNUSUAL STORIES LOOK FOR THE ATLAS SEAL ON THE COVER ATLAS

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Connie Simmons, New York City N Y says "I went from size 18 dress to 14 in 12 weeks the use of the Spot Reducer I am glad I tried it"

Like a magic wand, the "Spot Reducer" obeys your every wish. Most any part of your body where it is loose and flabby, wherever you have extra weight and inches, the 'Spot Reducer' can and you in acquiring a youthful, slender and graceful figure. The beauty of this scientifically designed Reducer is that the method is so simple and easy, the results quick, sure and harmless. No exercises or strict diets. No steambaths, drugs or laxatives.

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MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

ALSO USE IT FOR ACHES AND PAINS

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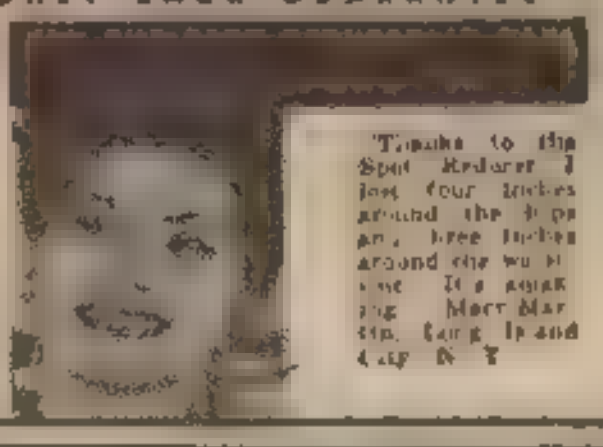
Rest with electric Spot Reducer See how soothing its gentle massage can be Be in dreamland sleep when massage can be of benefit

MUSCULAR ACHES

A handy helper for transient relief of discomforts that can be aided by gentle, relaxing massage



"Thanks to the Spot Reducer I lost four inches around the hips and three inches around the waist It's amazing Mary Martin, Long Island City N Y

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"ALL OVER THE WORLD YOU SEE THE MIRACLES OF THE ATOMIC AGE, BUT NO ONE KNOWS, FABULOUS AS THEIR WORKS ARE, THEY CAN'T EVEN BEGIN TO MATCH THE WONDERS OF YOUR HOME TOWN!"

THE MAN WHO TOOK A WALK!

ROBERT SALE

.PASS, PLEASE! YOU CAN'T GET IN HERE WITHOUT TOP-SECRET CLEARANCE, SIR!

I'M SORRY I DIDN'T KNOW! I DON'T HAVE A PASS!

MP

GIBS

BUT NOT HAVING A PASS IS NO OBSTACLE TO YOU, FOR YOU HAVE OTHER WAYS OF GETTING INTO THIS CAREFULLY GUARDED PLACE...

ONCE OUT OF SIGHT OF THE GUARD, YOU CALMLY REARRANGE THE WALL'S MOLECULAR STRUCTURE AND PASS THROUGH...

YOU ENTER THE ATOMIC ARSENAL AND ARE ALMOST OVERWHELMED BY THE VARIETY OF WARLIKE USES ATOMIC ENERGY HAS BEEN PUT TO...

YOU ARRIVE AT A VIEWING BUNKER JUST AS A SMALL ATOMIC WEAPON IS EXPLODED IN ANOTHER TEST...

AND ONCE HAVING GAINED ENTRANCE TO THIS PLACE, YOU MOVE ALONG WITH THE OFFICIALLY APPROVED OBSERVERS AND NOTE THE STARTLING, DESTRUCTIVE FURY OF JUST ONE ATOMIC ARTILLERY SHELL...

THEN YOU PASS ON TO ANOTHER PART OF THE PLANT, WHERE MECHANICAL ARMS LIFT AND MIX HIGHLY RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS...

HERE, THE ATOM IS BEING USED TO MAKE MEDICINES FOR RESEARCH SUCH AS RADIOACTIVE IODINES AND SALTS...

AND THESE ATOMIC MEDICINES ARE BEING SHIPPED ALL OVER THE WORLD FOR THE WIDEST BENEFIT OF MANKIND...

OSLO MEDICAL CENTER

YOUR NEXT STOP IS WASHINGTON AND ONCE AGAIN, LACKING A PASS, YOU ARE FORCED TO PASS THROUGH THE WALLS OF THE PENTAGON TO GAZE ON A GIANT ELECTRONIC BRAIN AT WORK...

THE M L TARY MEN ARE PUNCH NG THE KEYS OF THE CALCU LATOR TO SET THE COURSE OF A SUPERSON C MISSILE ..

YOU WATCH AS THEY FIX THE MISSILE'S DIALS AT THE SETTINGS SUGGESTED BY THE CALCULATOR, AND THEN...

ON A VIEWSCREEN, ALL THE HIGH BRASS AND YOU WATCH, AS THREE THOUSAND MILES AWAY, THE GUIDED MISSILE LANDS DEAD CENTER AT ITS TEST TARGET...

YES, MAN HAS DEVISED A CALCULATOR WHOSE MECHANICAL BRAIN CAN DELIVER DESTRUCTION THREE THOUSAND MILES AWAY WITHOUT THE SLIGHTEST CHANCE OF HUMAN ERROR ENTERING IN...

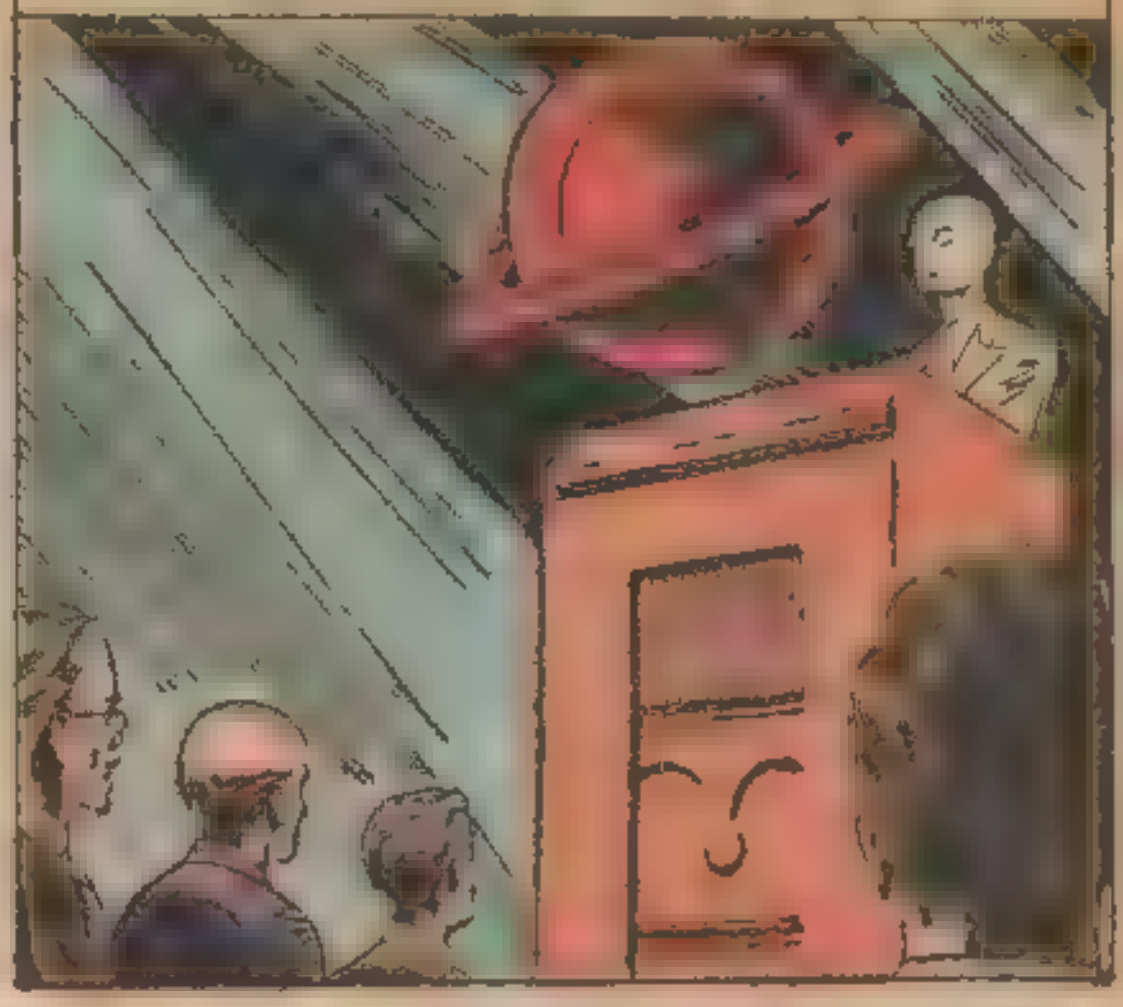
BUT EVEN AS YOU WATCH THE CALCULATOR, SOME CIVILIANS WHO HAD OBTAINED SPECIAL PERMISSION FROM THE MILITARY, BEGIN TO USE THE CALCULATOR FOR A DIFFERENT TYPE PROBLEM...

THROUGH COUNTLESS M LES OF WIRING, IMPULSES FLASH, AS THE SCIENTISTS TRY TO WORK OUT A SOLUTION TO THE FOOD PROBLEMS OF A CROWDED COUNTRY ON THE GLOBE! BUT IT IS IN VAIN... EVEN THE ELECTRONIC BRAIN CAN'T SEEM TO SUGGEST AN ANSWER..

WHEN THE DEFEATED PLANNERS LEAVE, YOU TAP OUT THE FACTS AND AN ANSWER STARTS FROM THE CALCULATOR, AN ANSWER YOU KNOW THE SCIENTISTS WILL FIND LATER AND BE ABLE TO USE TO END STARVATION IN ONE CORNER OF THE WORLD .

AND AS YOU FADE THRU THE WALL, YOU SEE THE SCIENTISTS EXCITEDLY EXAMINE THE SOLUTION TO THEIR PROBLEM AND YOU ARE GLAD YOU COULD HELP

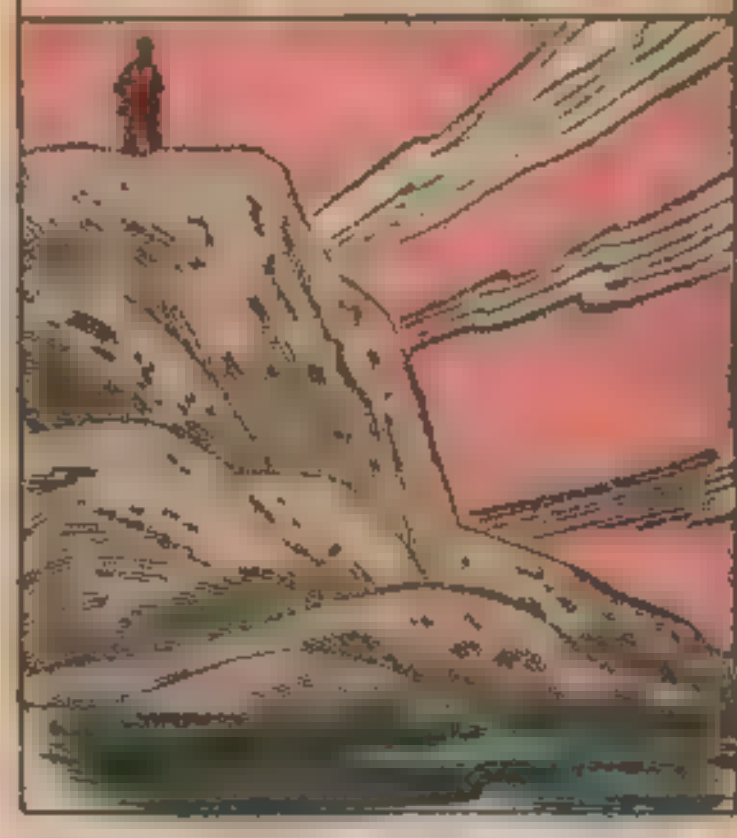
NEXT, YOU ATTEND A BRILLIANT LECTURE ON THE PROBLEMS OF ESTABLISHING A SPACE STATION A THOUSAND MILES BEYOND EARTH...



AND THE LECTURER EXPLAINS HOW THE STATION COULD BE USED TWO WAYS...AS A PERFECT LAUNCHING SITE FOR WEAPONS AGAINST ANY COUNTRY ON EARTH...

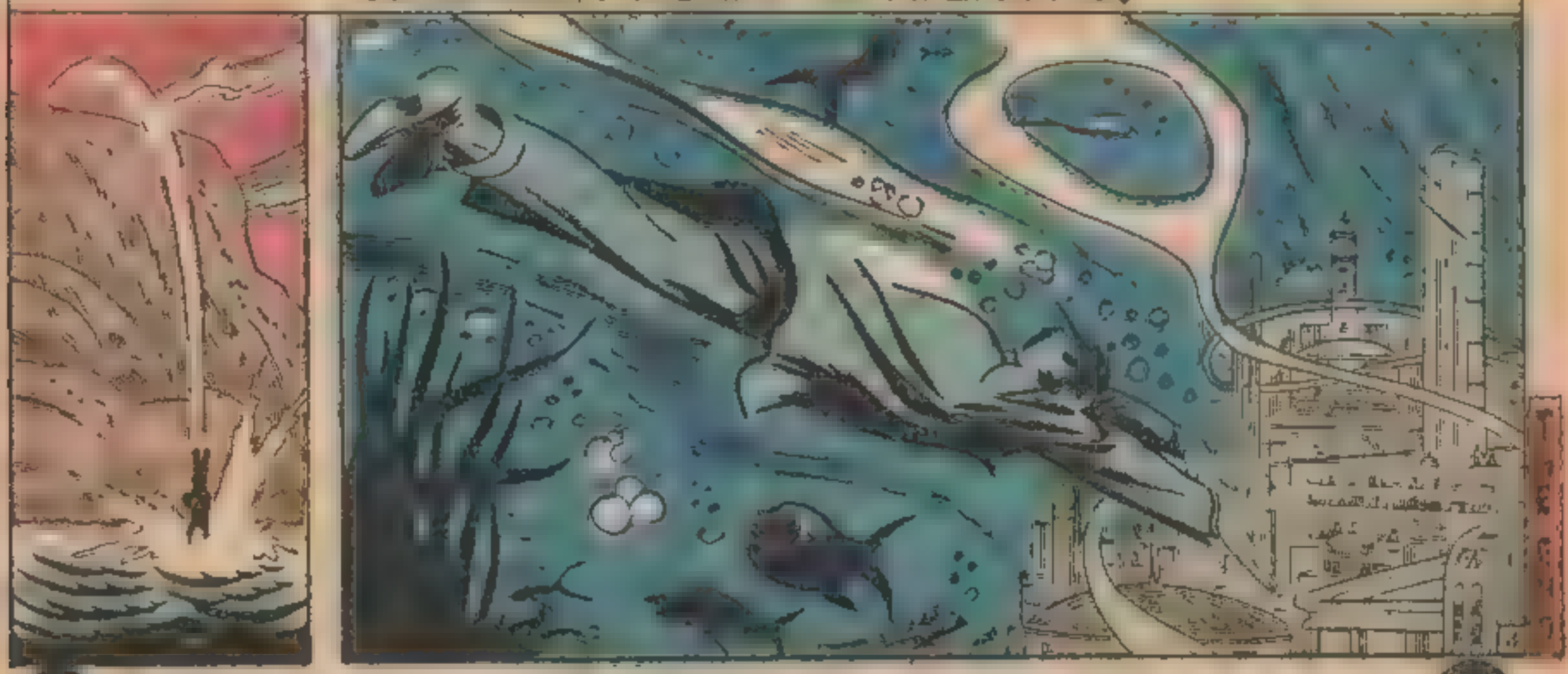
OR AS THE FIRST STEP OF THE JOURNEY TO THE MOON AND STARS

AS YOU START HOMEWARD, YOU REALIZE THAT EVERY GREAT INVENTION HAS BEEN TWO-SIDED... IT CAN **DESTROY** OR **HELP** MANKIND! BUT MAN MAY LACK THE WISDOM OF HOW TO **USE** HIS KNOWLEDGE...



AND UNTIL SURFACE MAN GAINS THAT WISDOM, FOR YOUR OWN SAFETY, YOU MUST KEEP **CONCEALED** YOUR MUCH **MORE ADVANCED WORLD**... YOUR HIDDEN, LONG DREAMED-OF, BUT NEVER FOUND,

UNDERSEA WORLD OF ATLANTIS!



ATLAS FOR THE BEST IN UNUSUAL STORIES LOOK FOR THE ATLAS SEAL ON THE COVER ATLAS

from Wiggins', there's a back road through a pretty wooded section. It isn't used much, but there's a ramshackle gas station down there. I don't know how the guy makes a living. He's way off the highway, but he likes to putter around his machine shop, and he lives simply, I guess. He told one of our boys that they better watch out and trade in the Batsby 'Last Word', because this flying car was coming onto the market. What's more, he had invented the mechanism for it, so he knew what he was talking about."

"Incredible!" Mr. Batsby shook his head wonderingly. "Get your coat, Ripple. We're going out to see this gas station genius and get to the bottom of this."

They quickly left the plant. Ripple drove the 'Last Word' down the busy city streets and headed for the remote backwoods area where the gas station was located. As they pulled up to the station, it looked deserted. Behind the gas pumps, a barn-like building teetered on its foundation.

"That must be his laboratory," whispered Ripple. Batsby leaned on the horn, and the siren wail shrilled through the air in true Batsby tradition.

A tall, slender fellow shuffled toward them from behind the rickety building. When he saw the car he shook his head sadly.

"Don't have any gas, fellows," he announced. "I'm getting a delivery next week, though."

"I understand you're an inventor," said Batsby in a gay, congenial voice. "I sort of fancy myself an inventor of a sort, too. I'd sure like to make your acquaintance, Mr. . . .?"

"Gismo's the name. Elmer Gismo." His eyes lit up with friendly interest. "Now isn't that a coincidence! Here I've stayed for nigh on twenty-five years never meeting a soul to share my little interests with. Then all of a sudden there's this fellow Wiggins that comes along, a real nice man. And now here *you* are! It's getting to be right sociable here after all these years. What's your line, Mister?"

"Batsby's 'Last Word'," announced Mr. Batsby proudly, patting the side of his car.

"That's sure too bad, Mister," sympathized Elmer Gismo. "You named it right, because it'll be the *last word* for sure in the history of road cars once Mr. Wiggins gets the flying jalopy on the market. Why don't you trade it in while you've still got

the chance?"

"You mean you actually sold Mr. Wiggins the patent on your flying car mechanism?" stammered Mr. Batsby.

"Oh, I didn't sell it to him."

"You didn't?" asked Ripple hopefully.

"No, sir. I *gave* it to him. Wasn't much use to me. I'm sort of lazy, I'm afraid. I just like to tinker around the shop with my ideas. Anyone as can use them is more than welcome. Say, maybe you'd be interested in my newest model. I got a dandy twist on the flying car today. It's a flying car-boat, sort of, for them as likes fishing or water travel. Want to take a look at the plans?"

Elmer Gismo obligingly provided Ripple with a set of detailed construction blueprints, but he turned a deaf ear to their pleas for him to return with them to Batsby's plant as a paid consultant.

"You just make 'em so people can enjoy 'em," Gismo grinned.

Batsby enterprises overhauled their production schedule, and to Batsby's delight they were ready to come out with the flying car-boat at the same time as Wiggins was to unveil the heralded "Z-plus."

The fanfare was terrific! Batsby himself demonstrated his machine by gracefully lifting it into the air to pass the outmoded "Last Word" crawling along the highway as old style cars did. He leveled the new flying car to the highway in a safe landing, then headed for the lake to skim over the waters with an ease that delighted boating enthusiasts the world over. He called the new model, "First Word Batsby."

Next came Wiggins' turn to show "Z-plus". Batsby was disappointed as the audiences cheered. Evidently, Elmer Gismo had acquainted Wiggins with the boat technique, and "Z-plus" was identical to the Batsby model. Batsby and Wiggins shook hands. "I think It's time we became partners, not competitors," said Batsby. Wiggins agreed heartily.

The two men decided to visit Elmer Gismo and present him with the brand new flying-car-boat model and a handsome bonus for helping them achieve the ultimate dream of the auto industry.

Elmer Gismo grinned amiably, but when they gave him the flying-car-boat as a gift, he shook his head regretfully.

"Sorry you went to all that trouble, fellows. Better trade it in. I just invented a flying-car-boat-rocket model that'll put this old-fashioned contraption to shame!"

THE END G-976

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Try VACUTEX Blackhead Remover

The amazingly effective Vacutex extracts Blackheads automatically — WITHOUT squeezing the skin or injuring tissues. Easy to use with three fingers. It reaches Blackheads anywhere. Try it 10 days and if not delighted, return VACUTEX and your dollar will be refunded

BALLCO PRODUCTS CO., Dept. 36
19 West 44th St N. Y 36, N. Y

☐ Enclosed find $1 Send postpaid
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U.S. Classics—50 Yr. Old Collection

75 selected stamps, each 50 or more years old. Send for approval offer. Even the biggest collections Get these unusual classics for less than 1c each. Without This With your request for approvals

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FREE FLOWER TRIANGLES! Set lovely Triangles in full colors of world's tiniest Republic, U.S.A. Colorful Rhodesia, Travancore-Anchal, Antelope, etc. FREE to approval buyers. DELTON PAGE COMPANY Box 203 J East Paterson, New Jersey

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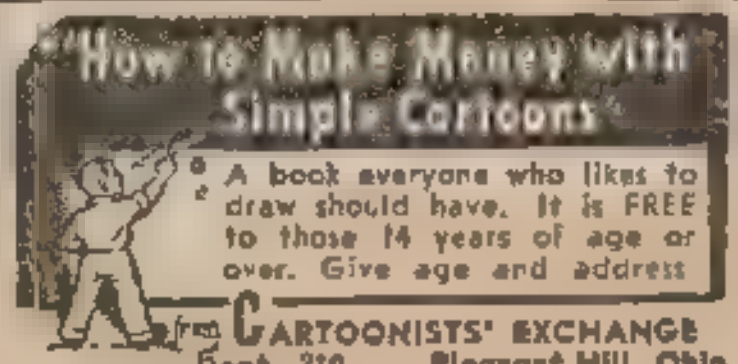
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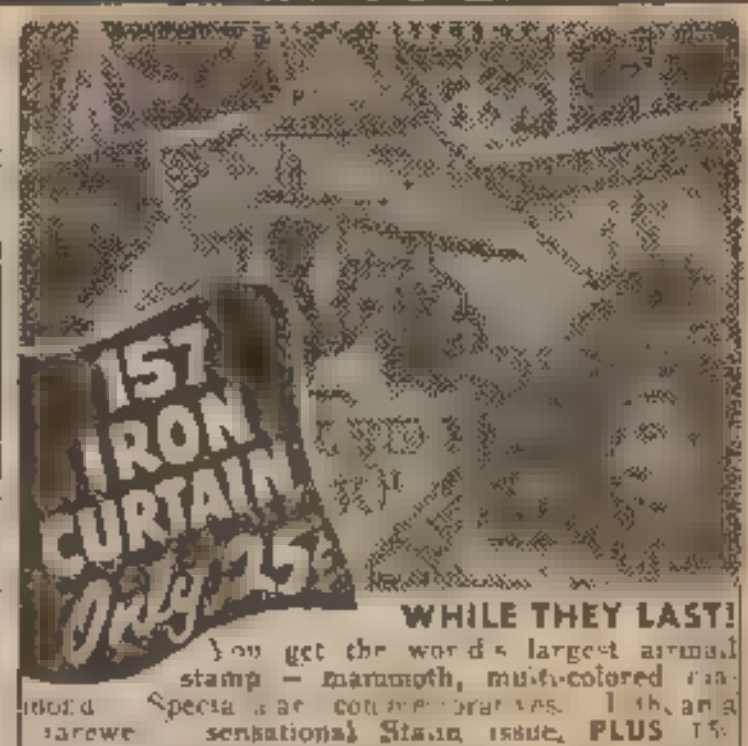

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Send my GIANT COLLECTION OF 157 ALL-DIFFERENT IRON CURTAIN stamps, booklet How to Recognize Rare Stamps and other offers. I enclose 25¢.

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FIVE STAR MUSIC MASTERS, 92 BEACON BLDG. BOSTON MASS.

225 STAMPS FOR ONLY 10¢

THIS MAMMOTH VALUE INCLUDES STAMPS WORTH UP TO 25¢! ALSO APPROVALS. WRITE TODAY!

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• SUPER BARGAIN! Includes odd and distant countries, Triangles, picturesque Airmails, African scenic landscapes, zoological beauties, mysterious specimen from the Orient, and multitudes of other highly interesting stamps. Terrific bargain. Thousands sold without complaint. No approvals sent.

LONGACRE SHOP, 503m 8th Ave., New York 11, N. Y.

THE TWENTIETH CENTURY WAS LONG PAST! GREAT CHANGES HAD COME ABOUT! THE REMNANTS OF MANKIND HAD BEEN DRIVEN UNDERGROUND, BUT MAN SURVIVED! GENERATIONS CAME AND WENT! GREAT UNDERGROUND CITIES SPRANG INTO BEING, AND LIFE BENEATH THE SURFACE WAS EFFICIENT, PRECISE AND COMPLETELY CONTROLLED!

ONE WHO DARED

IN THE SCHOOLS, DISCIPLINE WAS STRICTLY ENFORCED, AND ALL QUESTIONS RELATING TO MAN'S PAST WERE FIRMLY DEALT WITH ..

FOR THE LAST TIME, JJNAR... YOUR QUESTIONS ARE OUT OF ORDER.

BUT WHY?

WE DO NOT ASK QUESTIONS ABOUT THE OLD WAY OF LIFE! WE LIVE BENEATH THE SURFACE BECAUSE IT IS NECESSARY! THERE IS NOTHING ABOVE EXCEPT EMPTINESS THE UNKNOWN AND CERTAIN DEATH

M L

BUT THE OBSTINACY WITH WHICH HIS QUESTIONS WERE MET, ONLY FURTHER STIMULATED YOUNG JUNAR'S THOUGHTS...

WHY CAN'T I BE LIKE THE OTHERS? WHY CAN'T I LET WELL ENOUGH ALONE, AND FORGET IT ENTIRELY?

WHEN HE CAME TO HIS FATHER, HE ENCOUNTERED THE SAME ATTITUDE HE HAD FOUND IN SCHOOL...

WHAT GOES ON OUTSIDE DOES NOT CONCERN US HERE, JUNAR!

BUT WHY? THERE WAS A TIME WHEN MEN ***DID*** LIVE ON THE SURFACE OF THE EARTH!

WE WON'T DISCUSS IT! GO TO YOUR ROOM AND STAY THERE UNTIL YOU ARE SENT FOR!

SHORTLY AFTERWARD

FATHER DOESN'T WANT TO BE HARSH WITH YOU, BUT YOU SHOULDN'T INSIST ON SPEAKING OF THINGS THAT DON'T CONCERN YOU!

WHY ARE WE TAUGHT TO FEAR OUR PAST, TO AVOID ANY ASSOCIATION WITH THE WORLD ABOVE?

THE ANSWERS, I'M AFRAID, ARE NOT EASY!

MANY YEARS AGO MEN DID LIVE ON THE SURFACE BUT WE WERE FORCED TO COME BELOW! ***WHY*** WE HAD TO FLEE IS LOST IN THE DIM, FORGOTTEN PAST!

AT TIMES MEN DID TRY RETURNING, BUT THEY NEVER CAME BACK! SOME SAY THE GREAT BEASTS RETURNED, YET OTHERS DENY IT!

BUT THERE ***MUST*** BE ***SOME*** THING!

WHATEVER IT IS, IT ISN'T FOR US! OUR LIFE IS *HERE!* IN TIME, MY SON, *YOU* WILL BELIEVE, TOO!

BUT DESPITE THE WARNINGS, JUNAR'S MIND CONTINUED TO DELVE ALONG FORBIDDEN LINES, AND HIS NIGHTS WERE FILLED WITH STRANGE DREAMS ..

WHERE AM I? WHAT SORT OF PLACE IS THIS?

THEN HE WOULD BE AWAKE, BUT HIS THOUGHTS WERE STILL FAR OFF..

I WAS THERE, AND IT SEEMED SO REAL! IT WAS UNBELIEVABLE, BUT I WASN'T AFRAID!

SO THE WEEKS PASSED, AND WITH IT CAME THE GROWING CONVICTION OF WHAT HE HAD TO DO

I WILL DO IT TODAY! THERE IS AN ANCIENT SHAFT JUST OUTSIDE THE CITY, AND WITH LUCK I CAN SLIP BY THE GUARD...

HIS MIND MADE UP, JUNAR SLIPPED UNNOTICED OUT OF THE CITY AND SOON HIS PATH WAS AN ANCIENT CORRIDOR CARVED OUT OF SOLID ROCK..

THERE IS THE ENTRANCE TO THE SHAFT, AND THE GUARD HAS HIS BACK TO ME!

QUICKLY, JUNAR SLIPPED INSIDE THE SHADOWY ARCHWAY AND GAZED ALONG THE SPIRALING, ASCENDING STAIRWAYS..

THE ANCIENT STAIRWAY! THE ONE REMAINING CONNECTION WITH THE SURFACE ABOVE!

SLOWLY, HE BEGAN TO MOUNT HIGHER INTO THE SOMBER DARKNESS! ALL SENSE OF TIME WAS GONE, AND IN ITS PLACE WAS BUT ONE DESIRE... TO SEE WITH HIS OWN EYES...

PERHAPS WHAT I AM DOING IS WRONG, BUT IT IS BETTER TO *KNOW*, THAN TO LIVE IN DARKNESS!

FINALLY...

THE END OF THE STAIRWAY, AND THAT TRAP DOOR! THE EXIT TO THE *SURFACE WORLD!*

HE REACHED THE HEAVY DOOR, AND THROWING HIS WEIGHT UPON IT, PUSHED WITH ALL HIS STRENGTH! SLOWLY, THE MASSIVE PLATE SWUNG UPWARD, BUT SUDDENLY...

IT'S AN ALARM!

CLANNNG

AND IN THE CITY BELOW...

IT'S THE SURFACE ALARM!

NO ONE WOULD DARE LEAVE!

CALL THE GUARDS!

CLAANNNNNGG!

WITHIN MINUTES, A SURGING CROWD STREAMED FORWARD ALONG THE ANCIENT PASSAGEWAY, THE HARSH CLANGING URGING THEM ON...

NO ONE HAS DARED LEAVE FOR CENTURIES!

THE PASSAGE SHOULD HAVE BEEN SEALED!

YES, BUT THE DAMAGE IS DONE NOW!

HAVE YOU LEARNED ANYTHING?

STAND BACK! A SPECIAL DETAIL IS ON THE WAY UP NOW!

ALONG THE SPIRAL STAIRCASE ITSELF, THE ARMED DETAIL CHARGED UPWARD, THE IRON RUNGS RINGING LOUDLY BENEATH THEIR HEAVY BOOTS...

HERE'S THE TRAP DOOR AND IT *IS* OPEN!...

I'LL GO FIRST!

QUICKLY THE LEADER SPRANG FORWARD, BUT WHEN HE THRUST HIS HEAD THROUGH THE OPENED TRAP DOOR, HIS MOUTH SAGGED WITH STUNNED SURPRISE...

WHAT IS IT, DUKAS? WHY DON'T YOU SAY SOMETHING?

URGED ON BY ANXIETY AND CURIOSITY, THE OTHERS PUSHED FORWARD...

LOOK!

I... I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!

B-BUT IT'S *TRUE!*

SLOWLY, UNBELIEVINGLY, THEY TOOK THEIR FIRST STEPS ON THE SURFACE...

AND ALL ALONG WE THOUGHT...

WHAT DOES IT MATTER NOW? PASS THE WORD!

ALL THAT DAY, THE ANCIENT STAIRWAY RANG TO THE TRAMP OF COUNTLESS FEET! LAUGHTER WAS ONCE AGAIN HEARD ON EARTH, AND ONCE AGAIN THE STARS SHONE DOWN ON THE FACES OF A GRATEFUL PEOPLE...

AND WE HAVE *YOU* TO THANK, JUNAR... BECAUSE *YOU DARED TO KNOW!*

WE HAVE LIVED IN FEAR A LONG TIME! PERHAPS IT WAS ALL BEEN A KIND OF PUNISHMENT, BUT NOW MANKIND HAS RETURED TO THE PARADISE IT ONCE KNEW! THIS TIME WE WILL SUCCEED, WHERE THOSE WHO CAME BEFORE US FAILED!

THE END

ATLAS FOR THE BEST IN UNUSUAL STORIES LOOK FOR THE ATLAS SEAL ON THE COVER ATLAS

Get Rid of UGLY PIMPLES this new easy way!

Amazing new medicated lotion developed by a doctor works wonders by clearing up skin blemishes in one week or less!

DON'T let a bad complexion ruin romance, spoil your fun, cause you to be embarrassed, shy or ashamed. If you suffer from *acne*, the common external cause of pimples among young people, try this wonderfully effective medicated lotion that was developed by a practicing physician to clear up his own teen ager's complexion after other methods had failed. It has produced astonishing results for many thousands of others. It is GUARANTEED to help you or it won't cost you a single cent!

Doesn't Show On Your Face

Keraplex is a skin-colored lotion (NOT a greasy salve or ointment!) that is quickly absorbed by the skin and gets right down in the pores where its healing and antiseptic ingredients can go to work. After you have applied it, there is no trace left on the surface. In fact, it makes a perfect powder base for girls and a refreshing after shaving lotion for men . . . actually improves the tone of the skin! It is pleasant and easy to use — leaving your skin soft, clean and fragrant.

Works in SIX Out of SEVEN Cases!

An analysis of RESULTS taken from actual case histories proves that Keraplex is successful in clearing up six of every seven cases of externally caused blackheads, pimples and other common blemishes. It is also very effective in the treatment of *eczema*. It tones up the complexion generally, giving it a healthy, radiant glow.

Try This New Method Without Risking A Penny!

Keraplex is GUARANTEED to clear up your skin troubles or there will be NO COST to you whatsoever. If yours happens to be the ONE extra-stubborn case out of seven which Keraplex cannot help in one short week, it will cost you nothing to have tried it. Keraplex is sent to you with that simple, positive GUARANTEE!

SEND NO MONEY

You need send no money with the coupon below. When postman delivers your Keraplex lotion (in plain wrapper marked "Personal"), deposit with him only the modest price indicated below, plus a few cents postage. Then use your Keraplex morning and night for a full week, following the simple directions which will be enclosed.

If you do not SEE RESULTS that delight you — if you are not fully convinced that Keraplex IS clearing up your complexion — just return the empty bottle or unused portion and the purchase price will be refunded in full. Don't delay a single day. The longer you let your skin troubles go, the more difficult it will be to clear them up and get your complexion back to a healthy, clear, unblemished condition! Clip and mail the coupon TODAY. Underwood Laboratories, Inc., Stratford, Conn.

BEFORE

This young man suffered from a severe case of acne for years and tried all the usual "remedies" without success.

AFTER

Same young man after using KERAPLEX twice a day for just one week. Notice the decided improvement—pimples completely gone!

BEFORE

Note more than a dozen blemishes on just one side of this girl's face before KERAPLEX was applied.

AFTER

Same girl had used KERAPLEX, twice a day for only 5 days when above photo was taken. Note the amazing improvement.

WHAT USERS SAY:

"I was suffering from a severe case of acne . . . and with only 4 days' treatment with Keraplex . . . was completely relieved."—P. S.

"I have been completely satisfied with your lotion to help clear up the pimples on my face."—K. W.

"I have been using Keraplex for a severe case of eczema on my hands, knees and elbows. Now my skin is completely clear."—A. M. B.

MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE

UNDERWOOD LABORATORIES, Inc., Dept. 32
STRATFORD, CONN.

Yes! I want to try Keraplex ON APPROVAL. Send size checked below in plain wrapper marked "personal." When it is delivered I will deposit with postman amount indicated below, plus postage. If not delighted with the RESULTS, I will return empty bottle within seven days for a full refund of the purchase price.

☐ Regular Size, $1.98
☐ Double Quantity (Two Bottles), $3.50

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ Zone____ State_____

☐ SAVE POSTAGE. Check here if you ENCLOSE payment, in which case we pay postage. Same money-back Guarantee applies!

Payment must be sent with orders going to A.P.O.'s, Canada and foreign countries, due to postal rules.

FREE!

THIS VALUABLE SET OF STAMPS FROM THE WORLD'S MOST EXCITING PIRATE STRONGHOLDS

and Exclusive Stamp Collector's MAP OF THE PIRATE WORLD

WHEN YOU GET THIS BIG

"Pirate Chest"

OF 500 TREASURED STAMPS

CATALOG VALUE OVER $10.00

Yours for Only 35¢

***ALL DIFFERENT*—including stamps from every part of the world where pirates ever lived or looted!**

WHAT TREASURES YOU'LL FIND!

YOU'LL BE "RICH" IN STAMPS when you receive this "treasure chest" of 500 valuable stamps from all over the world, including places famous in history as PIRATE hideouts. These stamps are ALL DIFFERENT. There's no telling WHAT treasures you will find! We GUARANTEE the total stamp-catalog value will be AT LEAST TEN DOLLARS . . . maybe much more! Yet to get new names for our mailing list, we will send you this "treasure chest" of stamps for only 35 cents!

And you'll also get FREE the extra-special stamps (shown at top of page) from the exciting pirate hideaways of La Fitte, Blackbeard, Captain Kidd—colorful stamps from the Bahamas . . . Barbados . . . Haiti . . . Trinidad . . . Madagascar . . . the fabled haunts of the world's most bloodthirsty pirates! ALSO FREE — a copy of the entertaining and informative "How to Collect Stamps."

MAIL COUPON NOW

Rush coupon with 35¢ at once, while this amazing offer can still be made. Other interesting offers included for your inspection. If coupon has already been clipped, just send 35¢ with your name and address to: GOLIATH STAMP CO., Dept. 10-MC, Bethlehem, N. H.

FAMOUS DISCOVERER ALBUM

yours at an amazing low price

Has spaces for 11,000 stamps. Packed with pictures, descriptions of all countries, colonies, etc. Spaces for flags, coats of arms. Complete guide for beginners. 176 big pages. FULL-COLOR soil-proof cover. Yours for only $1 to help you to get started. Check box at bottom of coupon. FREE MAGNIFIER AND STAMP HINGES included if you act at once.

GOLIATH STAMP CO.
Dept. 10-MC, Bethlehem, N. H.

I enclose 35¢. Please send me the "Treasure Chest" of 500 Stamps (total value in standard stamp catalog guaranteed to be at least $10). Include AT NO EXTRA CHARGE the "Pirate Stronghold" stamps shown at top of page, and a copy of "How to Collect Stamps." Send also other interesting stamp offers for my inspection. I understand I am not obligated to buy any stamps from you—now or later.

Name_____
(Please Print Plainly)

Address_____

City_____ Zone____ State_____

☐ CHECK HERE FOR DISCOVERER ALBUM, enclosing only $1 more. Stamp magnifier and hinges included at no extra charge. Money back if not delighted.

I Take Your ARMS

. . . and build them into a pair of smashing triphammers! Look at these arms I gave George Urban

Just look at the arms on this Atlas Champion! There's a pair of arms that can handle any kind of trouble. Let me show you what I can do for YOUR arms . . . quickly and easily, with my famous *tested* method.

I Take Your BACK

. . . and give it solid, tiger-man power! Look at the back of my pupil Pete Morgan

Here's a pupil who won one of my Silver Cups — Pete Morgan of Washington. Wouldn't YOU like to have a powerful back like this?

Let "Dynamic Tension" turn the trick for you . . . in just 15 minutes a day.

I Take Your SHOULDERS

. . . and mould them into a powerful bridge of strength! See what I did for Adnan Zabadeh

"Dynamic Tension" helped this man, a pupil from the Middle East, to develop his shoulder muscles to their full handsome power! Let me take your shoulder muscles and bring out their full, rugged strength!

I Take Your CHEST

. . . and build it into deep muscled proportions! Here's the chest I gave Joseph Seldin

Joe Seldin's marvelous development is like a Greek god's all over — but especially his chest. Let me give YOU the kind of chest that shouts "Power" and red-blooded "Health!"

Charles Atlas

Holder of the title "World's Most Perfectly Developed Man"

My 32-Page Illustrated Book is FREE!

VALUABLE TROPHY GIVEN AWAY

Be the envy of friends! Win this strikingly handsome "Atlas Champions" trophy, over 1½ ft. high! All pupils eligible.

Yes FROM HEAD TO TOE I Can Make You A Real He-Man

Just Give Me 15 Minutes a Day — and I'll Give You the Kind of Body You've Always Wanted!

GIVE me a skinny, pepless, second-rate body—and I'll cram it so full of handsome, bulging new muscle that your friends will grow bug-eyed! . . . I'll wake up that sleeping energy of yours and make it hum like a high-powered motor! Man you'll *feel* and *look* different! You'll begin to *LIVE!*

"Dynamic Tension." That's the secret! That's how I changed myself from a scrawny 97-pound weakling to winner of the title, "World's Most Perfectly Developed Man."

"Dynamic Tension" Does It!

ARE YOU Skinny, weak, run down? Always tired? Nervous? Timid? Fat? Flabby? What to do about it is told in my FREE Book.

Using *"Dynamic Tension"* only 15 minutes a day, in the privacy of your own room you quickly begin to put on muscle, increase your chest size, broaden your back, fill out your arms and legs. This easy, NATURAL method will make you a finer specimen of REAL MANHOOD than you ever dreamed you could be!

You Get Results FAST

Almost before you realize it, you will notice a general "toning up" of your entire system. You will have more pep, bright eyes, clear head, real spring and zip in your step! You get sledge-hammer fists, a battering ram punch — chest and back muscles so big they almost split your coat seams—ridges of solid stomach muscle —mighty legs that never get tired. Your whole body starts to feel "alive," full of zip and go! You're a New Man!

FREE My 32-page Illustrated Book Not $1.00 or 10c —But FREE

Send NOW for my famous book, "Everlasting Health and Strength." 32 pages, packed with photographs, valuable advice. Shows what *Dynamic Tension* can do; answers vital questions. Book is a real prize for any fellow who wants a better build. Yet I'll send you a copy absolutely FREE. Just glancing through it may change your whole life. Rush coupon to me personally: **CHARLES ATLAS, Dept. 60-X, 115 East 23rd Street, New York 10, New York.**

CHARLES ATLAS, Dept. 60-X
115 East 23rd St., New York 10, N. Y.

Send me—absolutely FREE—a copy of your famous book, "Everlasting Health and Strength" — 32 pages, crammed with actual photographs, answers to vital health questions, and valuable advice to every man who wants a better build. I understand this book is mine to keep, and sending for it does not obligate me in any way.

Name _____ Age _____
(Please print or write plainly)

Address _____

City _____ State _____

☐ If under 14 years of age check here for Booklet A.

LOOK AT SKINNY! I wouldn't be seen with her!
AND SHE USED TO BE SO SKINNY!
AM I PROUD OF THE WAY THE BOYS LOOK AT YOU!
WOW! WHAT A GIRL!
LATER

SKINNY

MEN ARE OFTEN ASHAMED TO STRIP FOR SPORTS OR FOR A SWIM!

GIRLS ARE NOT ALLURING AND DON'T HAVE EYE-CATCHING CURVES!

CHILDREN WHO WON'T EAT AND ARE UNDER-WEIGHT, OFTEN CALLED SKINNY!

Now at last More-Wate plan that puts firm, attractive pounds and inches on your body, chest, arms and legs.

GAIN MORE WEIGHT IN 10 DAYS OR YOUR MONEY BACK!

Amazing New Way developed by modern medical science to put on weight on lean bodies. **Guaranteed** to give you up to an **extra pound a day!** Or **your money back!** Why should you dread going to parties and socials, simply because you look scrawny and spindly? Why ever feel self-conscious about your body again? If you're **underweight*** . . . or just a little on the thin side, due to faulty appetite, or bad dietary habits, you can **put on up to a pound a day** of **attractive weight** without exercise . . . dangerous drugs . . . or special diet . . . and more quickly, more easily than you ever dreamed possible . . . with MORE-WATE. MORE-WATE contains no dangerous drugs . . . you **eat it like candy!** Yet . . . if you were to have this same prescription compounded to your order, it would cost you many times more. However, through this introductory offer, you can obtain **4-way** MORE-WATE tablets . . . a full 10 days' supply . . . for just $1.00 or a 30 day supply for only $2.98, plus a 10 day supply free, with an absolute money-back guarantee! Yes, try MORE-WATE for TEN DAYS . . . and if not entirely delighted with weight gained, return the unused supply for full refund! You've nothing to lose . . . and **weight to gain!** Act now! Stop being the guy or the gal that everyone calls "skinny." Stop being the guy or the gal who dreads summer and going to parties and socials because it means everyone will enjoy themselves and you won't. Don't be a wallflower, because you have a figure like a broomstick! **Gain more weight!**

10-DAY SUPPLY ONLY $1.

The 4-way MORE-WATE tablets are **unconditionally guaranteed** to put on weight . . . or it doesn't cost you a penny! MORE-WATE is a **delicious,** full strength, 4-way tablet . . . that combines not just one . . . or two . . . but 4 of the most amazing aids for **gaining weight** known to medical science. MORE-WATE is not a liquid . . . not a powder. It's delicious, **pleasant-tasting tablet!** It contains vitamin **B-12** . . . the **amazing red vitamin doctors** give many **underweight patients in hospitals** . . . It contains Iron that helps correct iron deficiency, anemia and builds rich, red blood. It contains appetite-building vitamin B-1 . . . and it contains nutritious easily assimilated 'malt, the amazing ingredient that helps your body turn much of the food you eat into **well rounded flesh** instead of being wasted. **That's the secret of putting on weight.** Now you can help your food to **add new pounds** to your **arms, chest, hips, thighs,** and **legs.** Now you don't have to be skinny . . . or afraid to be seen socially and be ashamed of your figure! **You must achieve the figure you want . . . or don't pay anything.** Act now!

Not one child yet has failed to go for and ask for more MORE-WATE tablets! Stop worrying about children not eating enough, give them MORE-WATE tablets—it stimulates their appetite . . . they eat it like candy!

SENSATIONAL 10-DAY TEST!

Mail the coupon now! Test the amazing MORE-WATE tablet plan for 10 days at our expense. If after 10 days your friends, your mirror and your scale do not tell you that you have gained weight and look better you pay nothing!

MAIL THIS NO RISK TRIAL COUPON NOW!

MORE-WATE CO., Dept. 14
318 Market Street, Newark, N. J..
Just mail us your name and address, and $1.00 cash, check or money order. You will receive a 10 day supply of MORE-WATE tablets and plan, postage prepaid,

☐ **Send me 30 day supply plus an extra 10 day supply (that's a 40 day supply) for $2.98. I understand that if I am not delighted with MORE-WATE tablets and plan, I can return the 30 day supply in 10 days for full purchase price refund, and keep the 10 day supply without charge.**

NAME _____ **ADDRESS** _____

CITY _____ **STATE** _____

SENT ON APPROVAL—MAKE AMAZING 10-DAY TEST